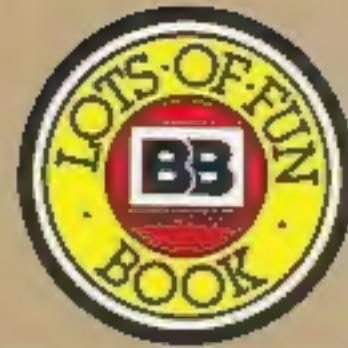


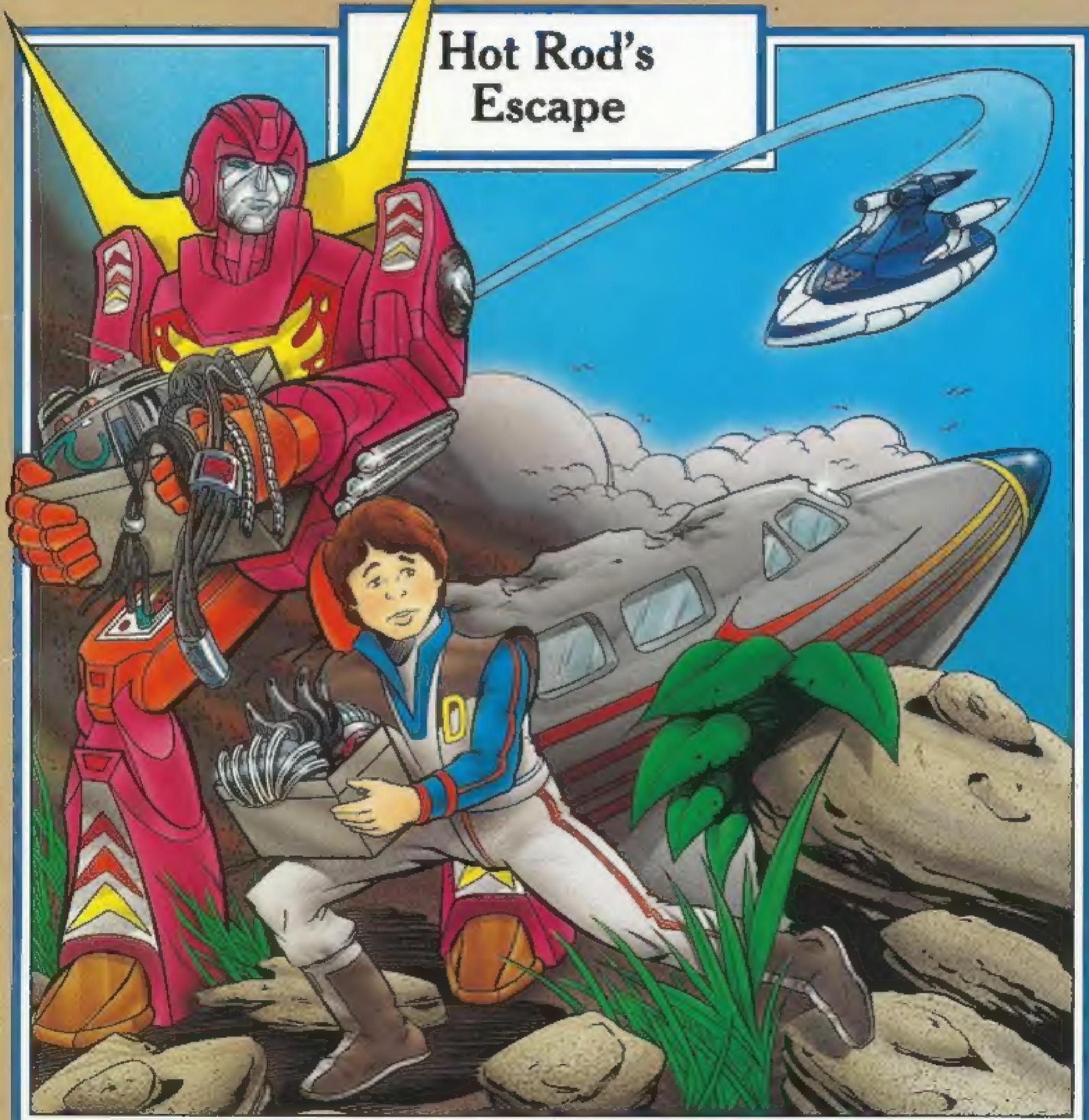
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MORE THAN
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THE EYE!

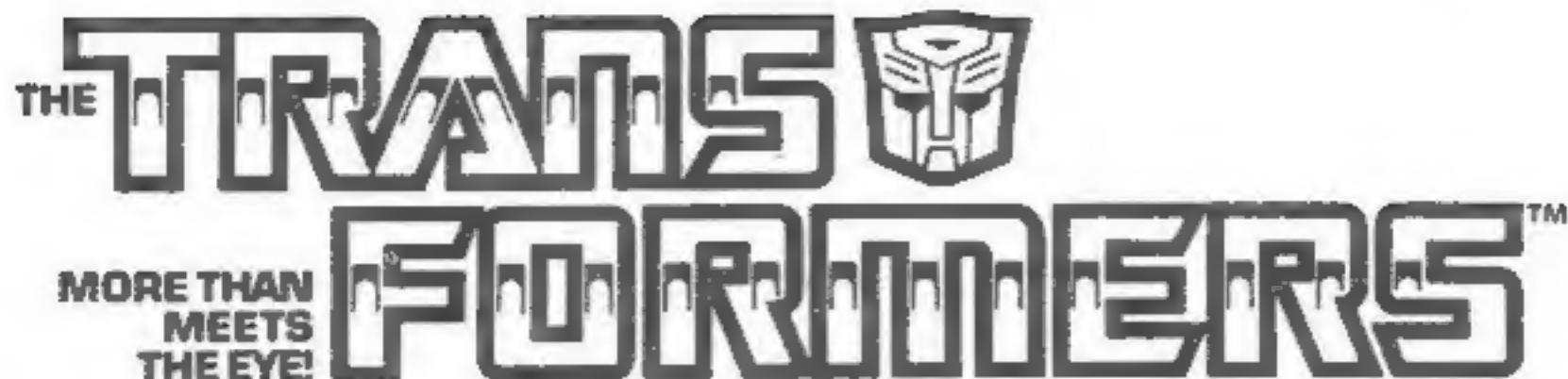


Hot Rod's
Escape



THE TRANSFORMERS™

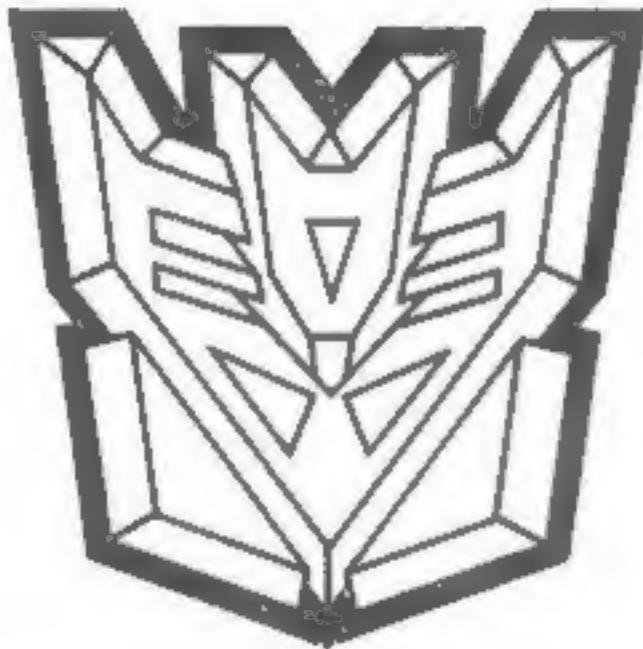
MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE!



Hot Rod's Escape

Written by Regina Weyn

Illustrated by Frank Springer and Mike Esposito



DECEPTICON



AUTOBOT



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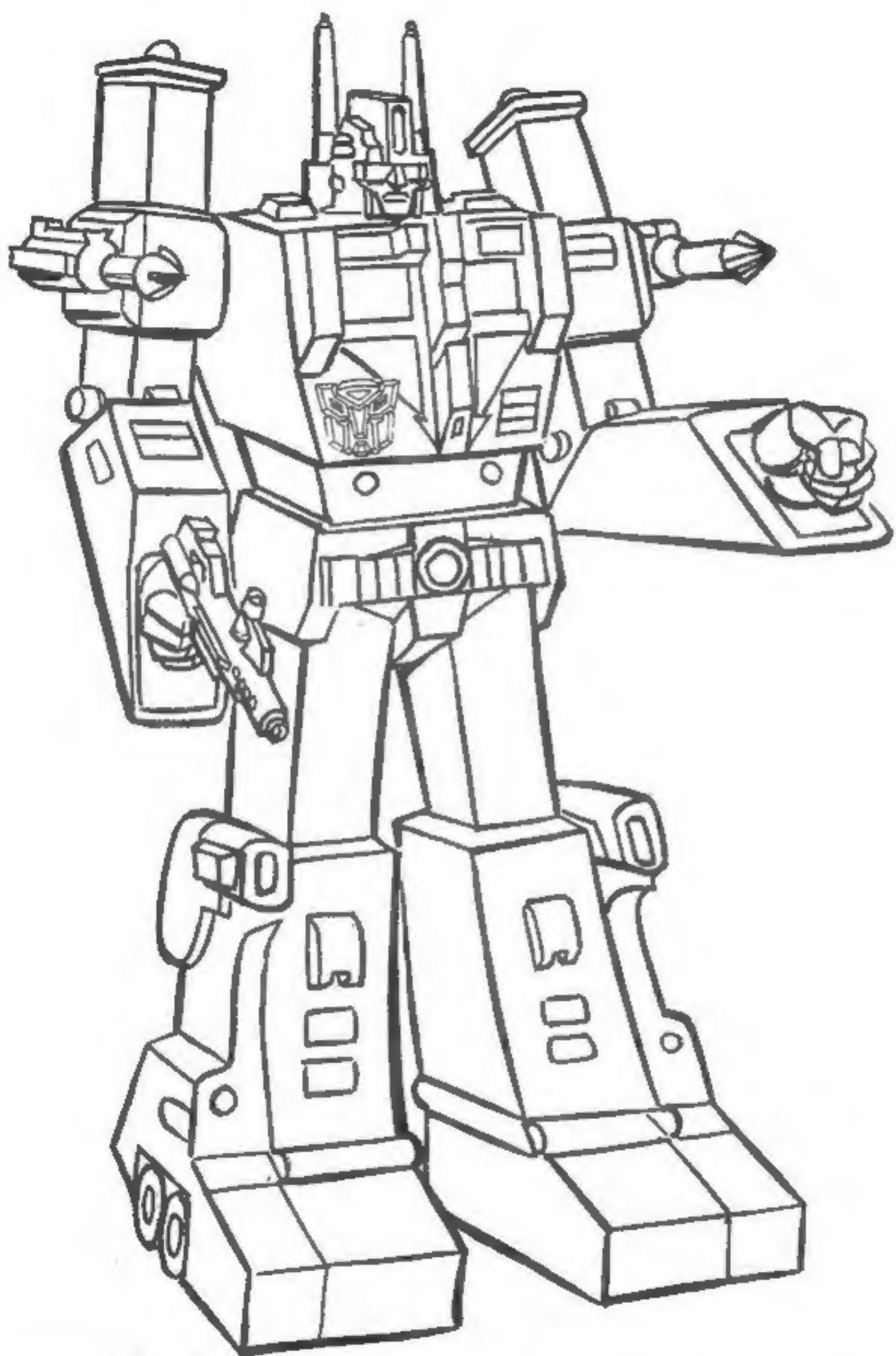
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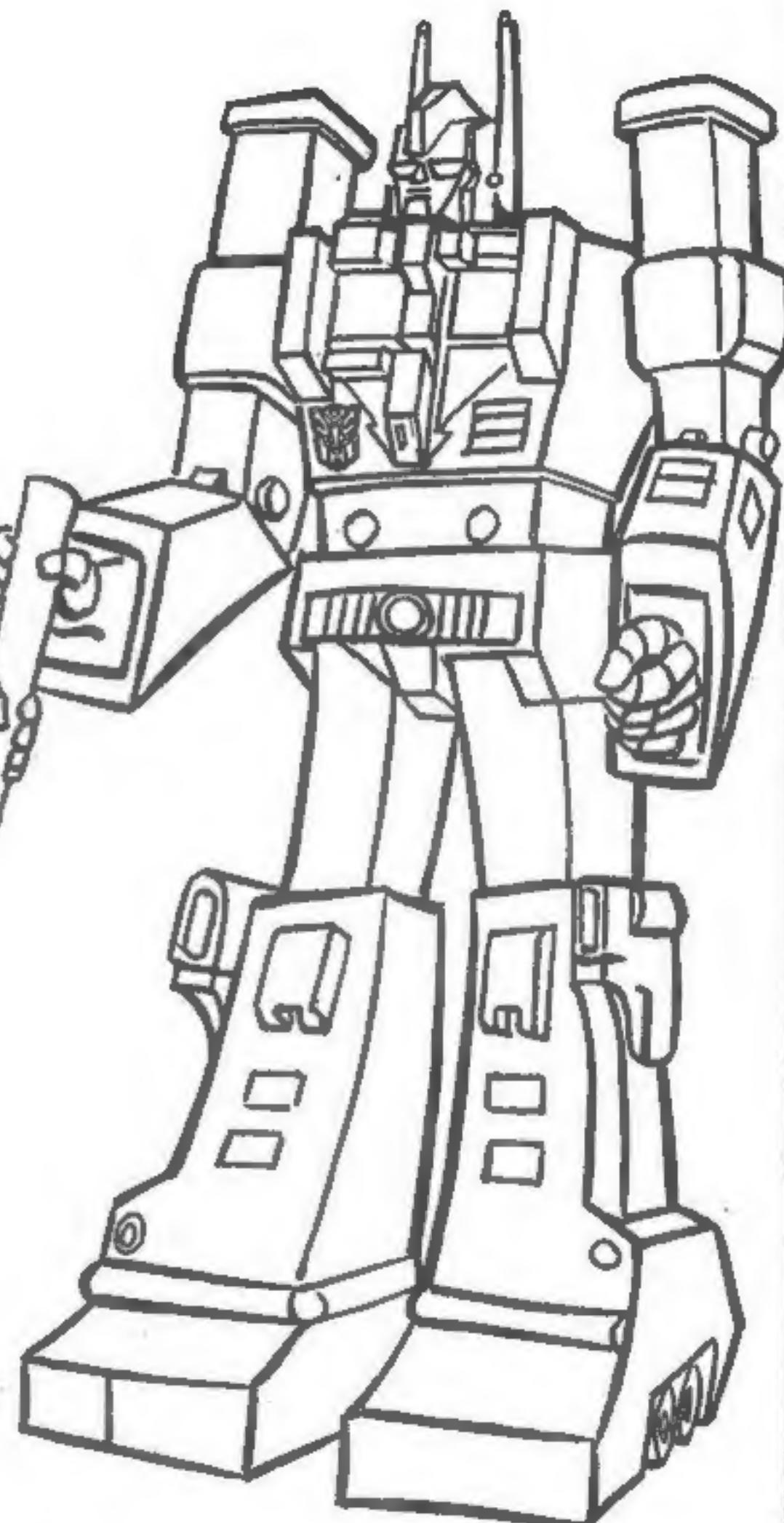
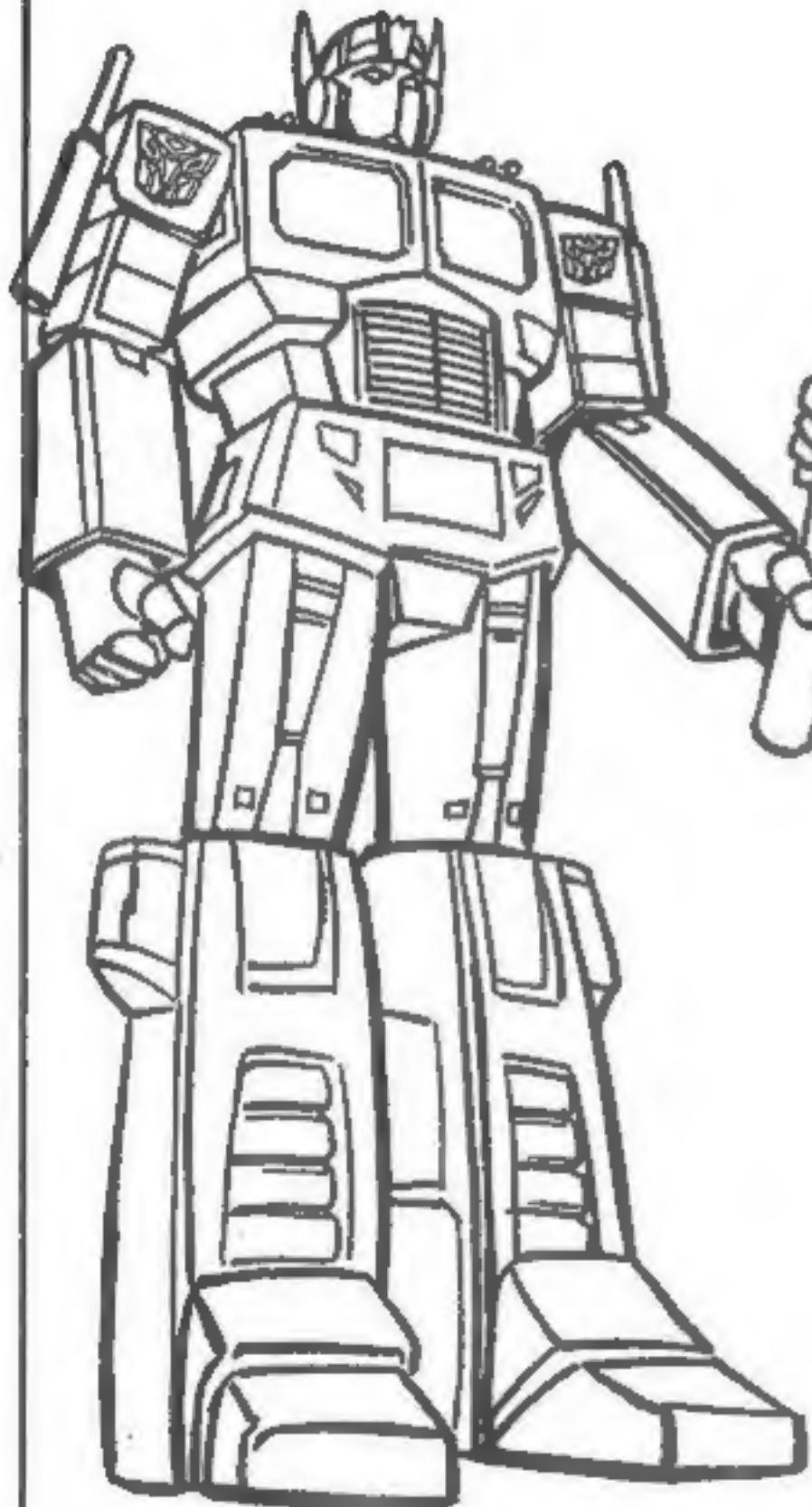
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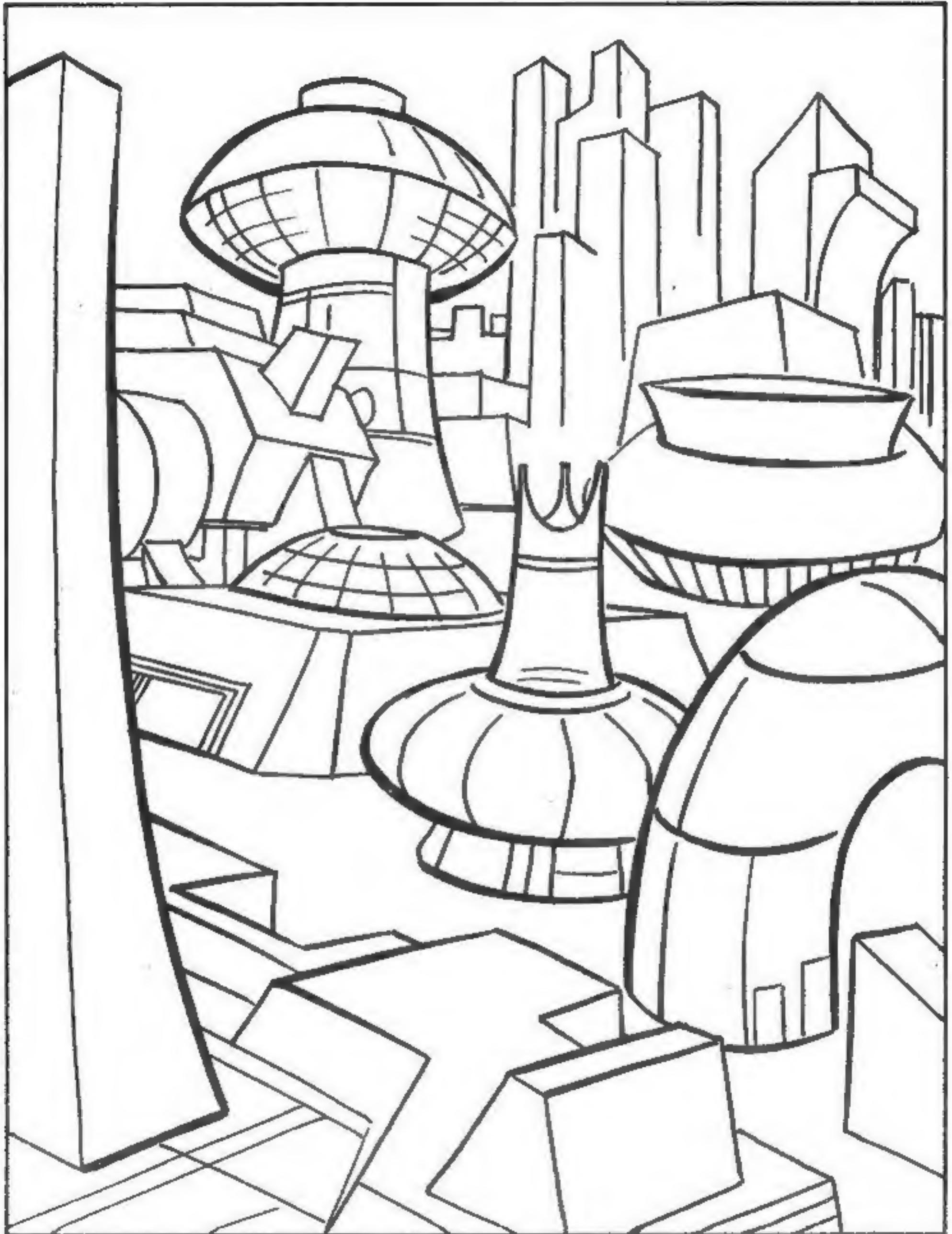
Ultra Magnus fearlessly leads the Autobots.



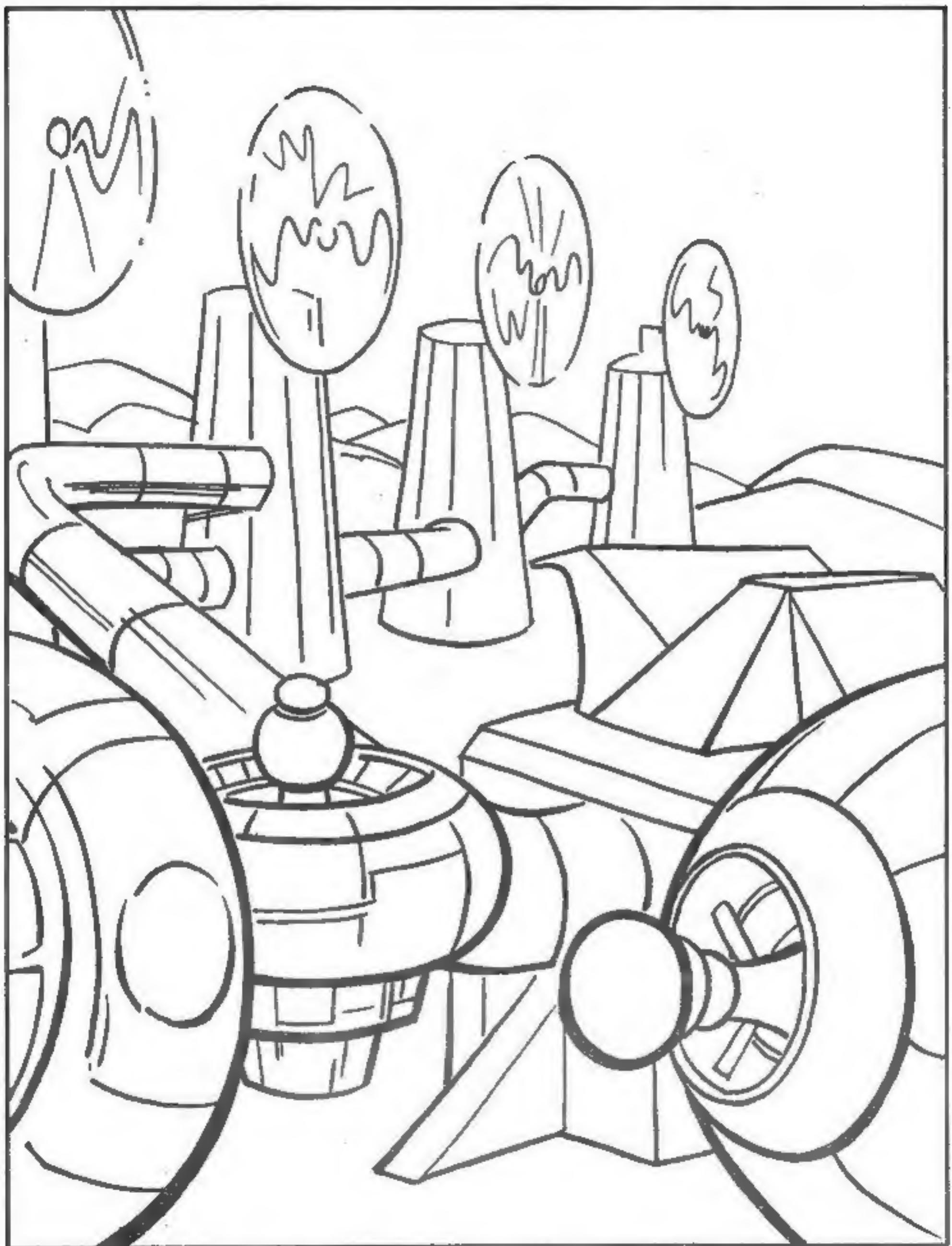
When Optimus Prime passed on the "Matrix of Leadership" he knew Ultra Magnus would rule wisely and courageously.



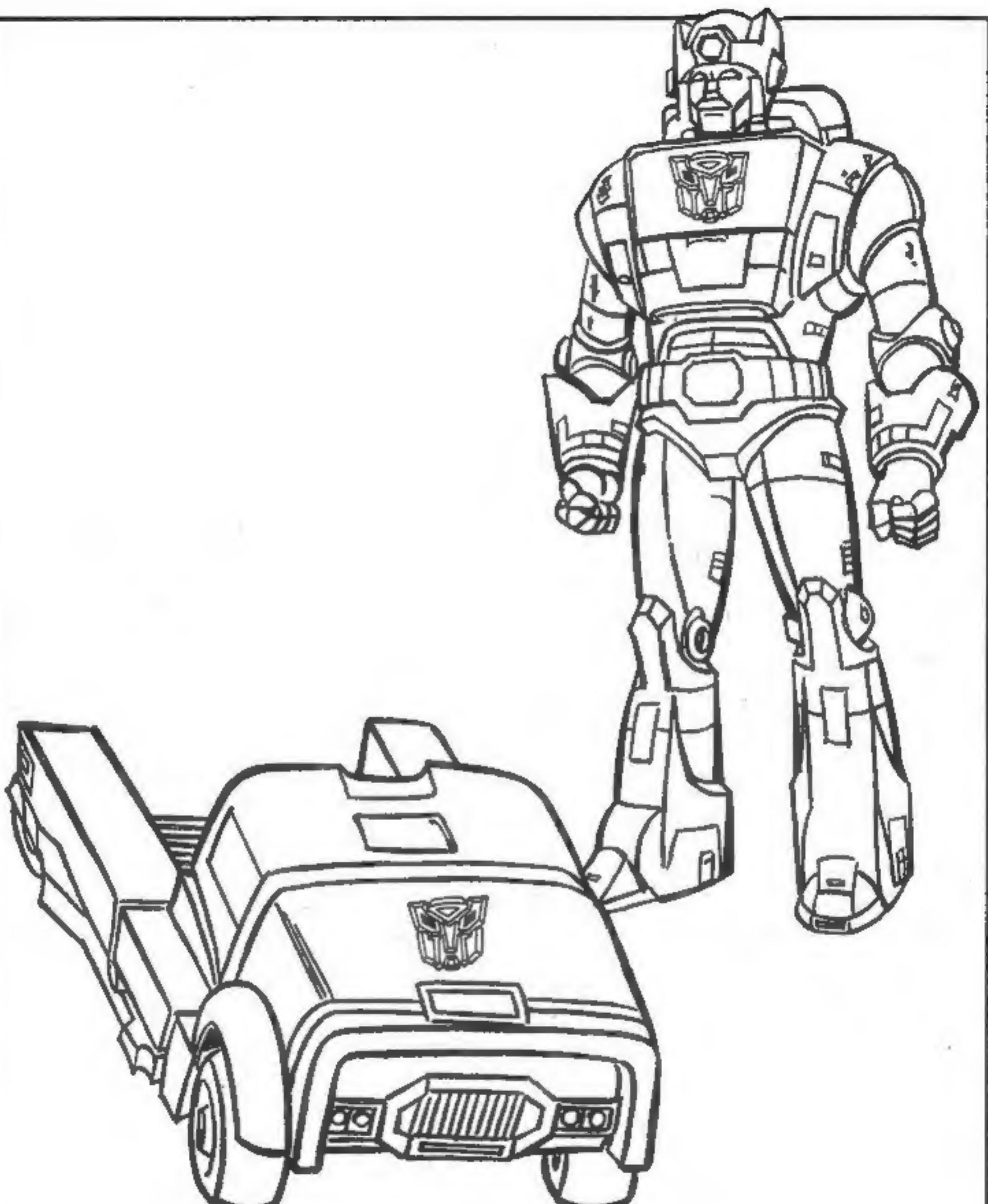
Galvatron is the leader of the Decepticons.



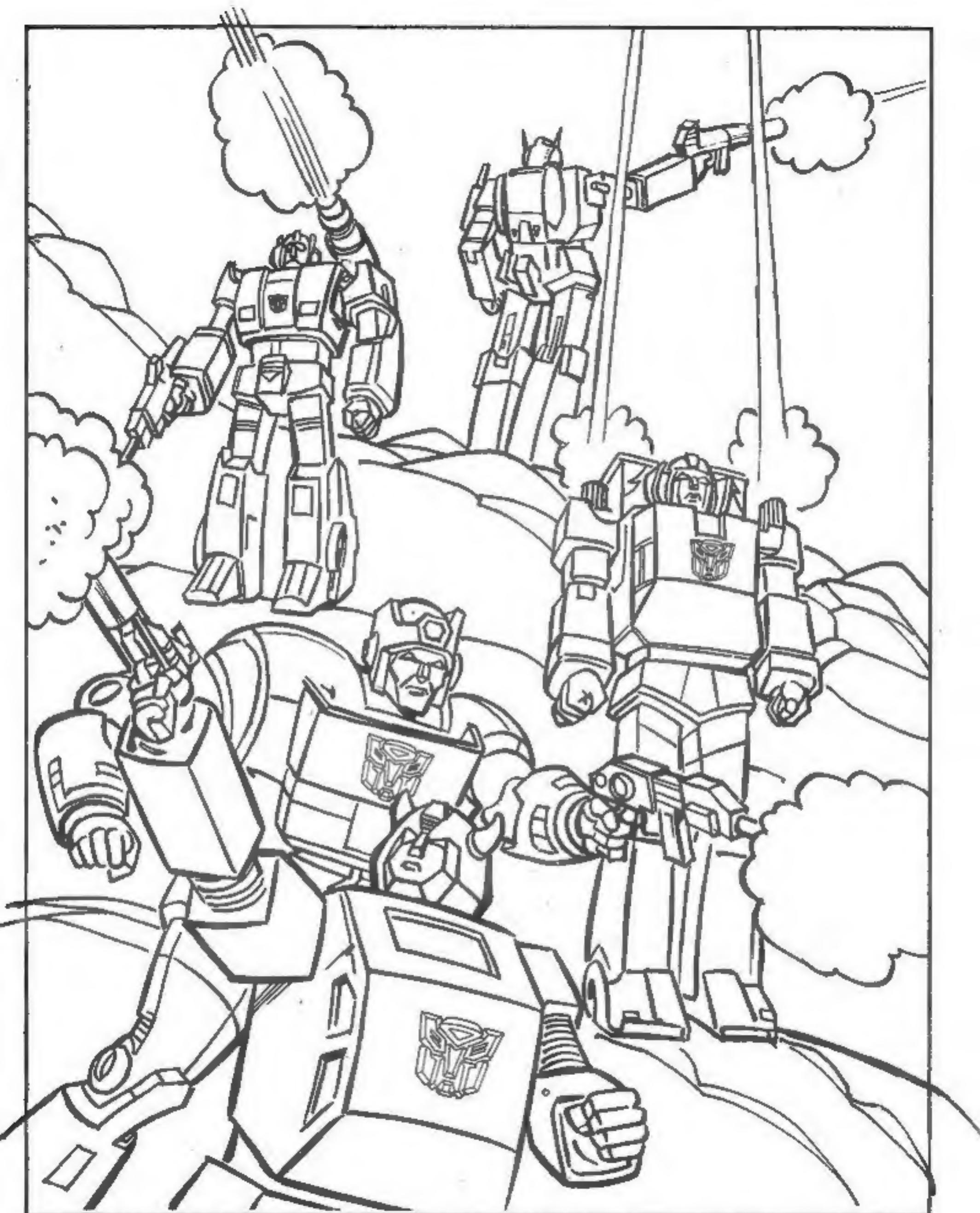
The Autobots must remain always alert against enemy attacks!
The Autobot city is their greatest achievement.



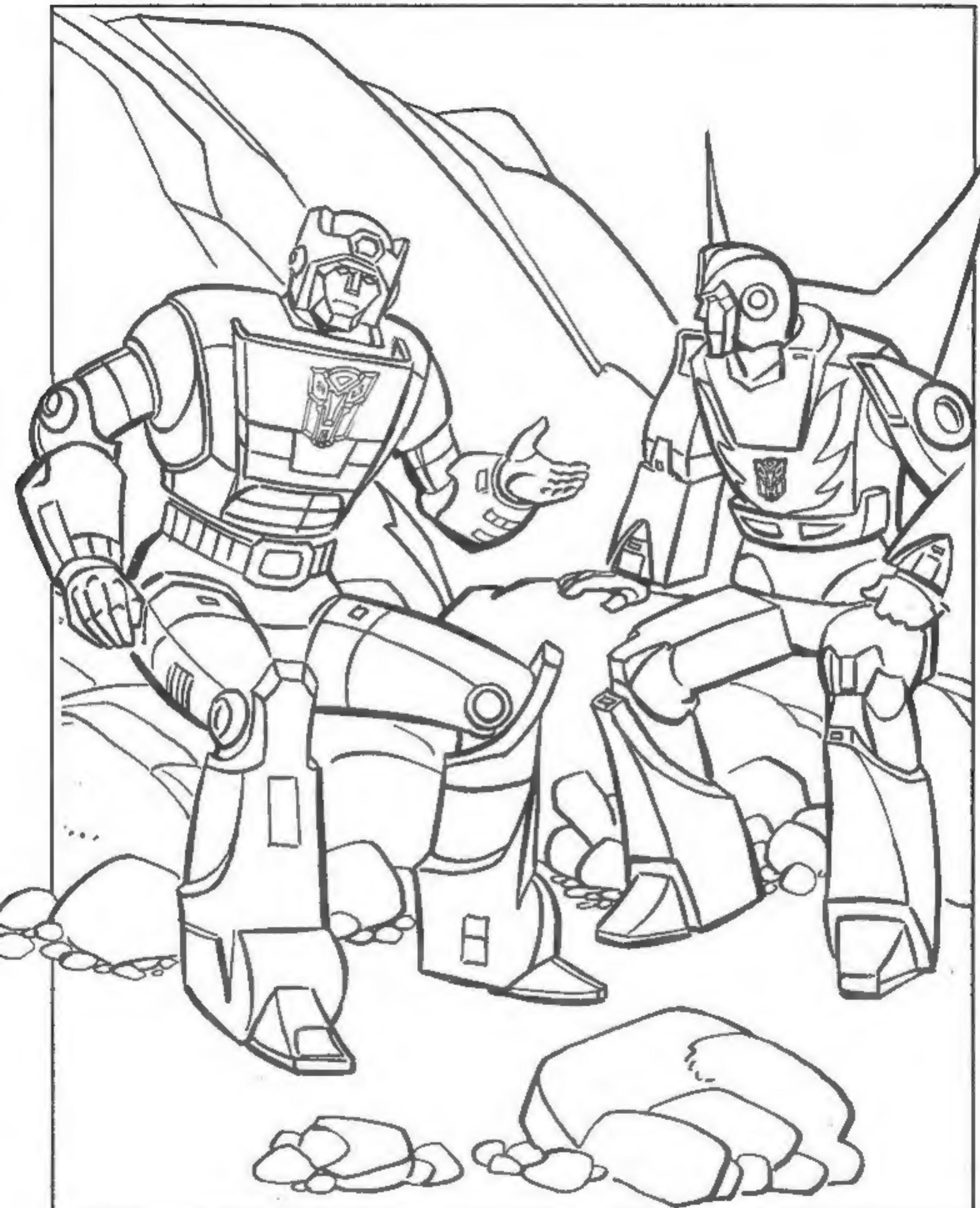
The large refinery plant keeps fuel supplies abundant. The Autobots did not always have such advantages over the Decepticons.



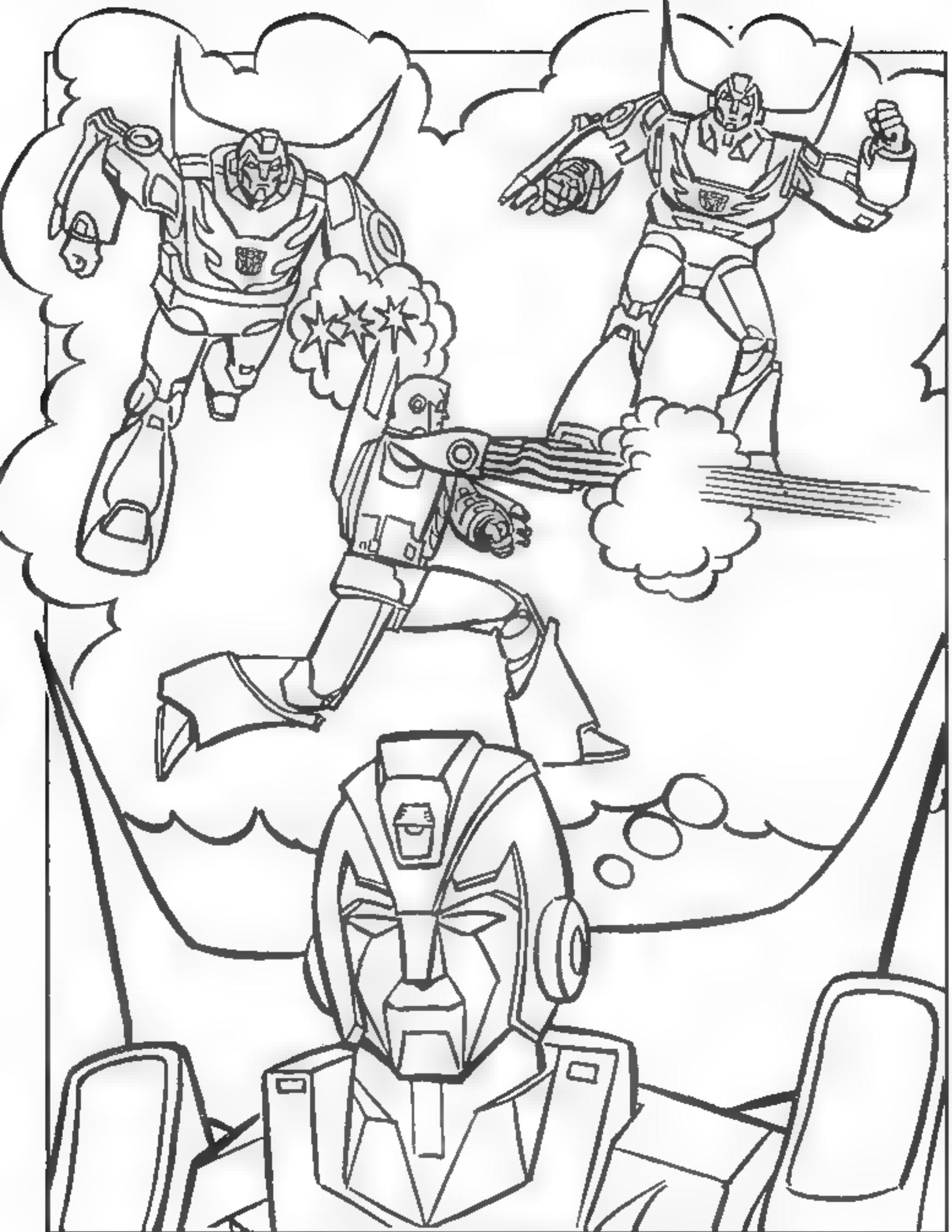
Kup remembers many wild stories of adventure from his "good old days" as an Autobot fighter.



Kup remembers the days spent fighting side by side with Optimus Prime, Sideswipe, Bumblebee and Sunstreaker.



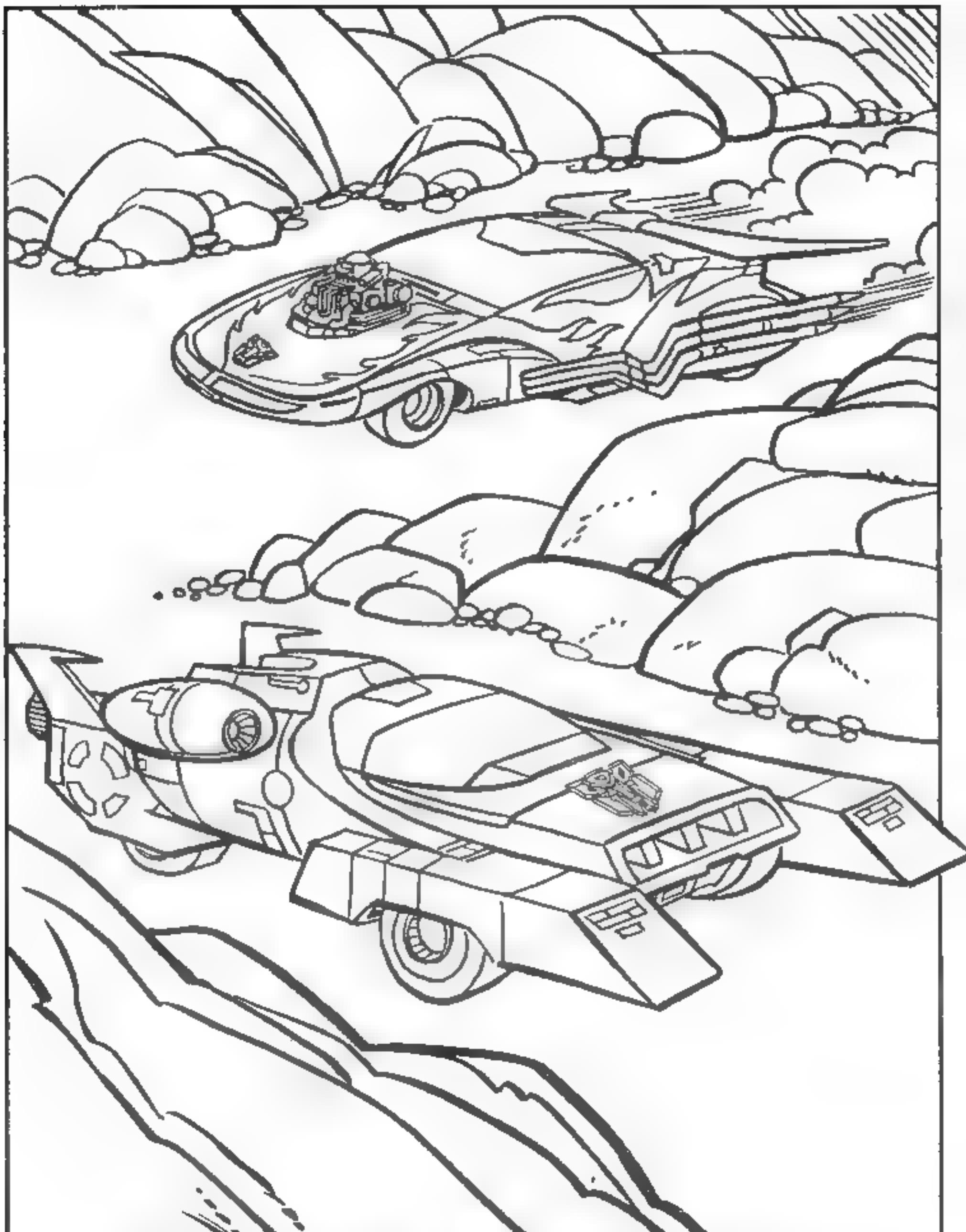
Young Hot Rod loves to hear stories about the old days.



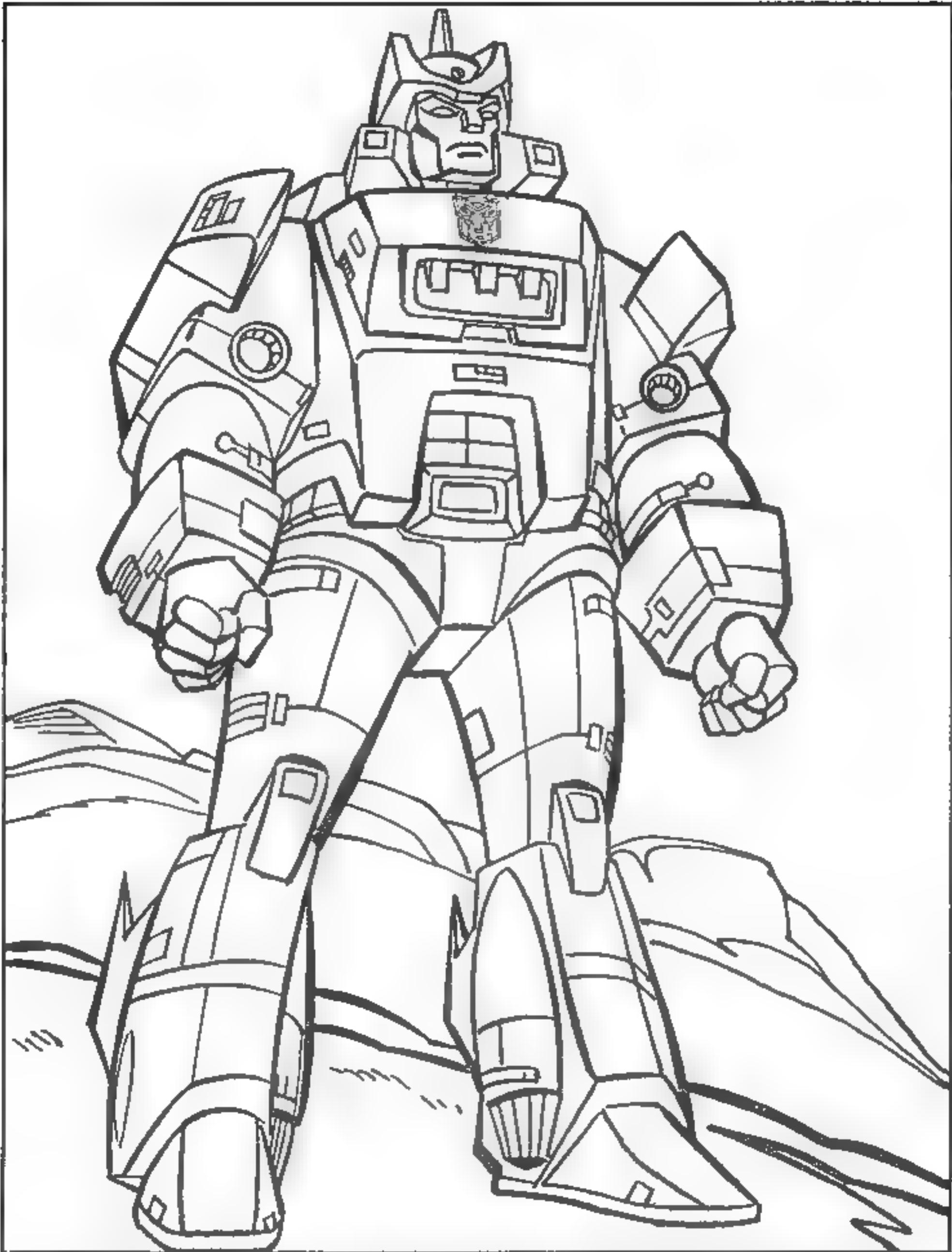
Hot Rod dreams of being a hero himself!



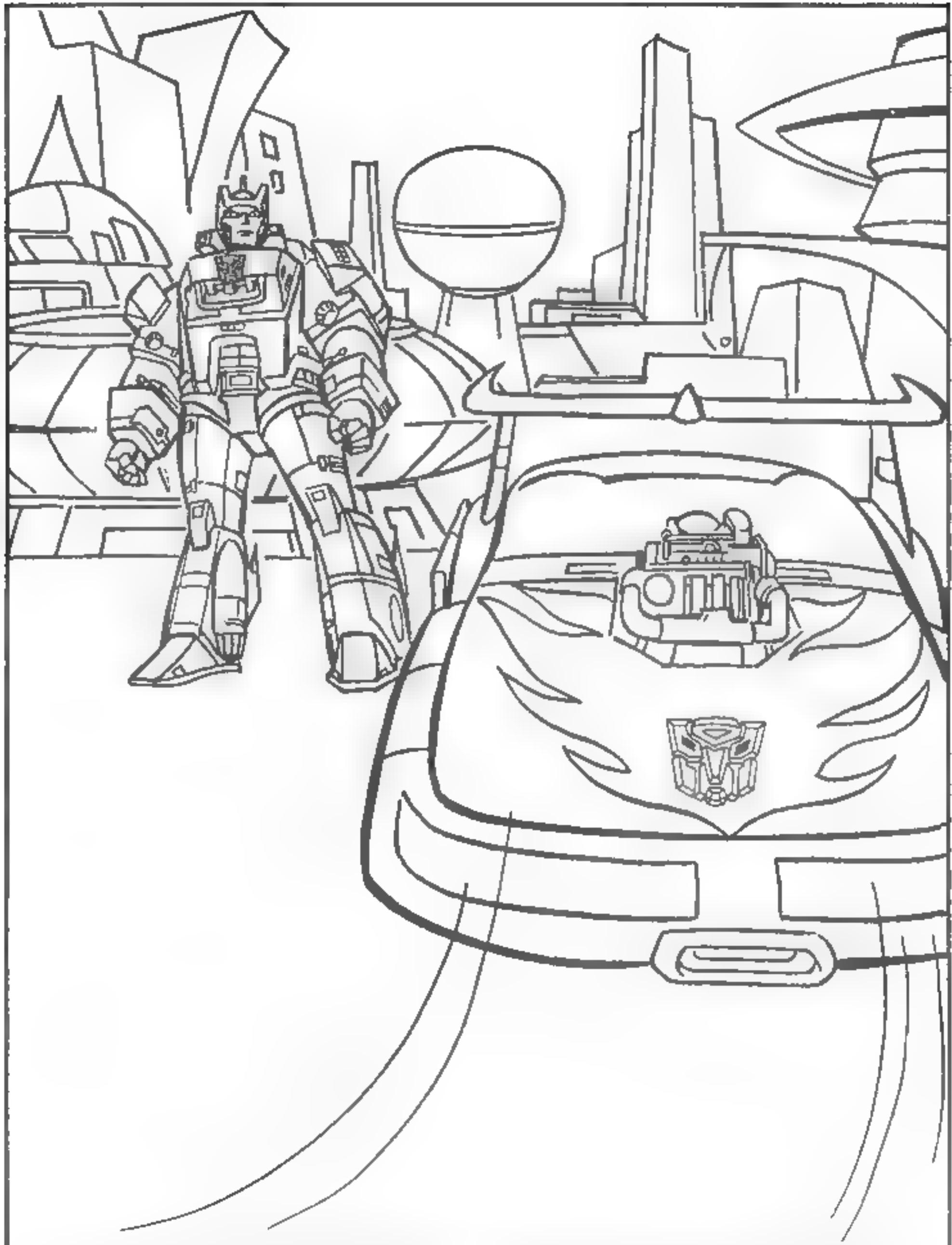
Long talks with Kup always drain Hot Rod's fuel supply. He zooms to the Autobot city for some re-energizing Energon Cubes.



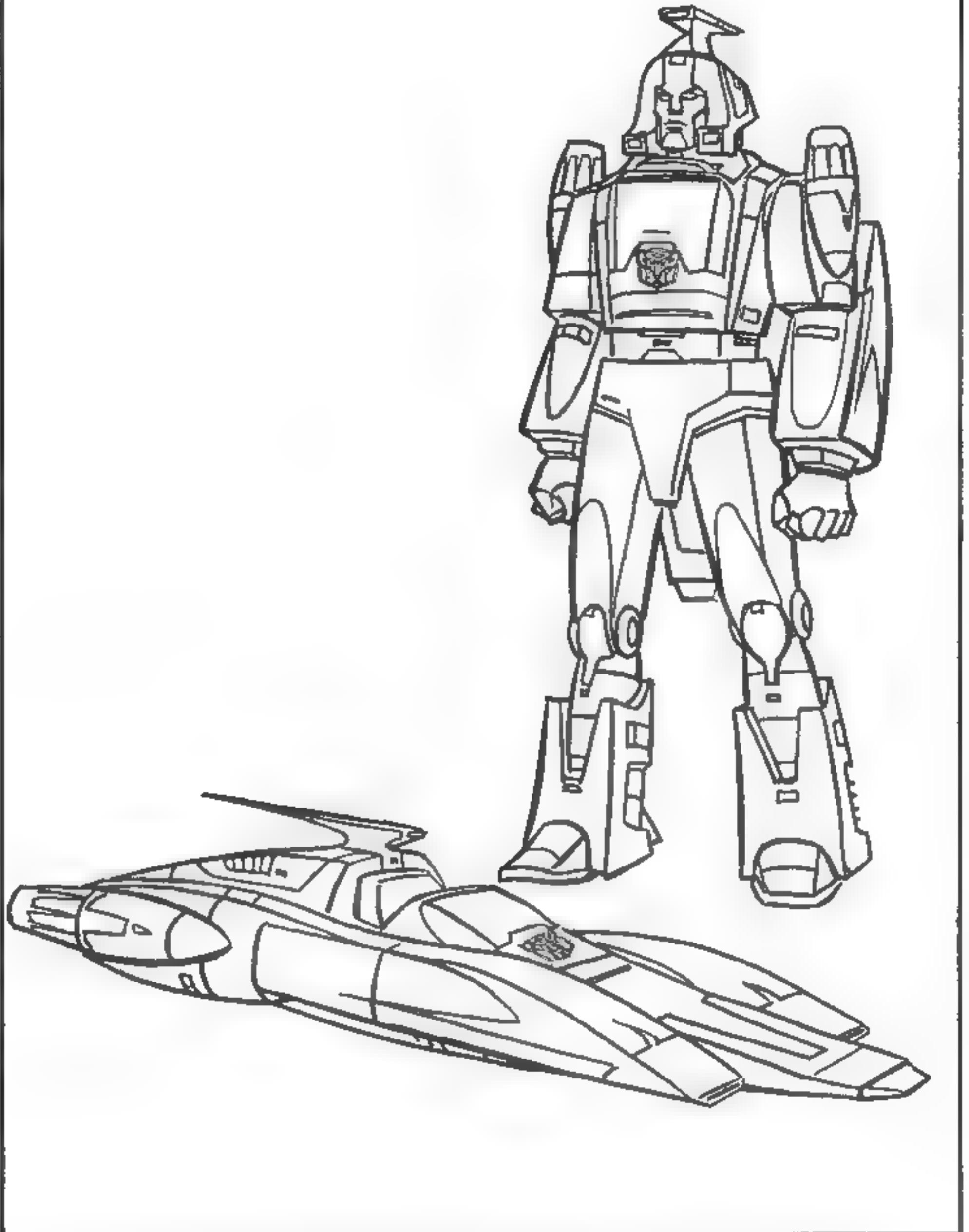
"What's the hurry?" jokes Springer, as Hot Rod races past him.



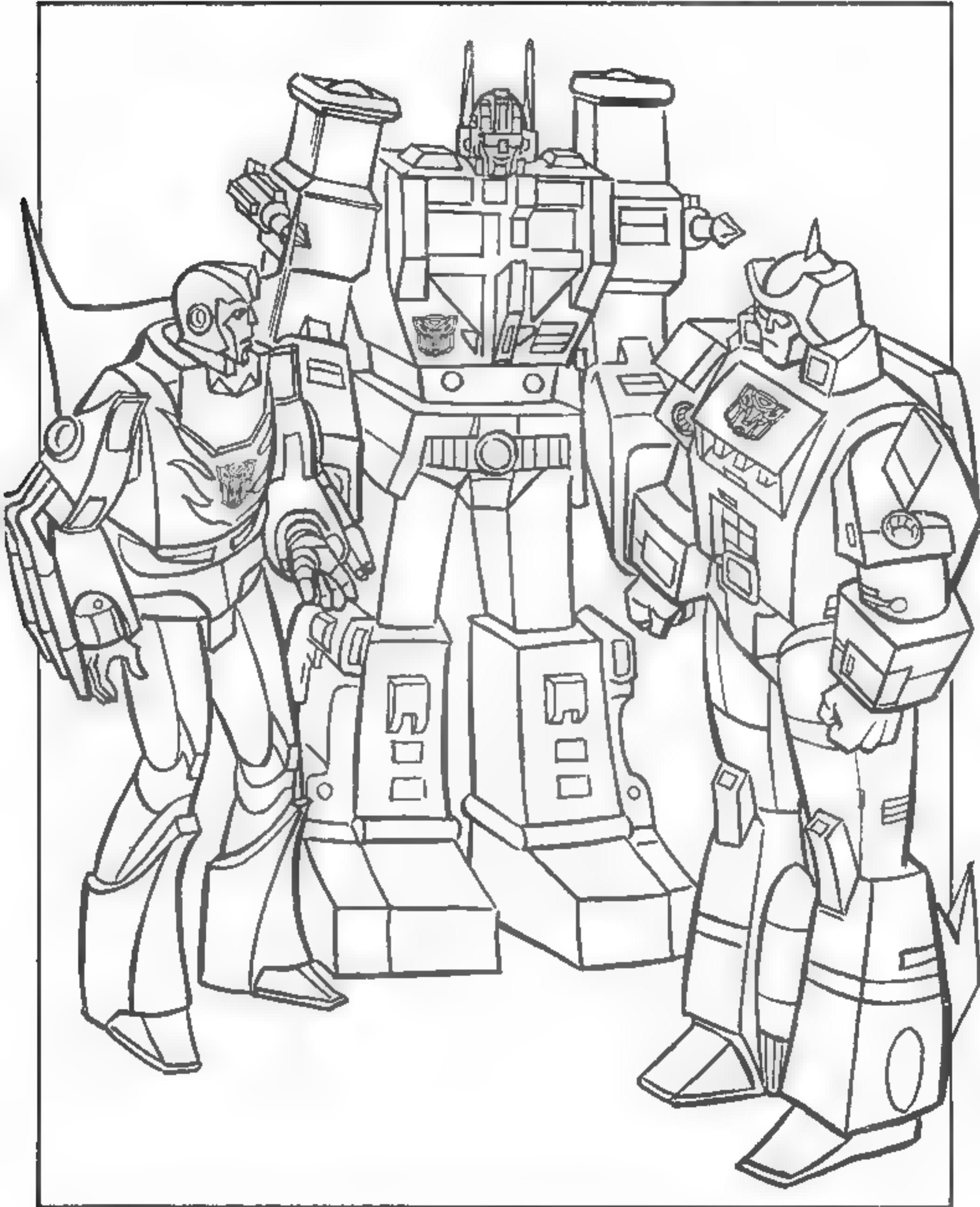
Springer has the power to cover great distances by "springing" his mighty legs. He is also one of the strongest Autobots.



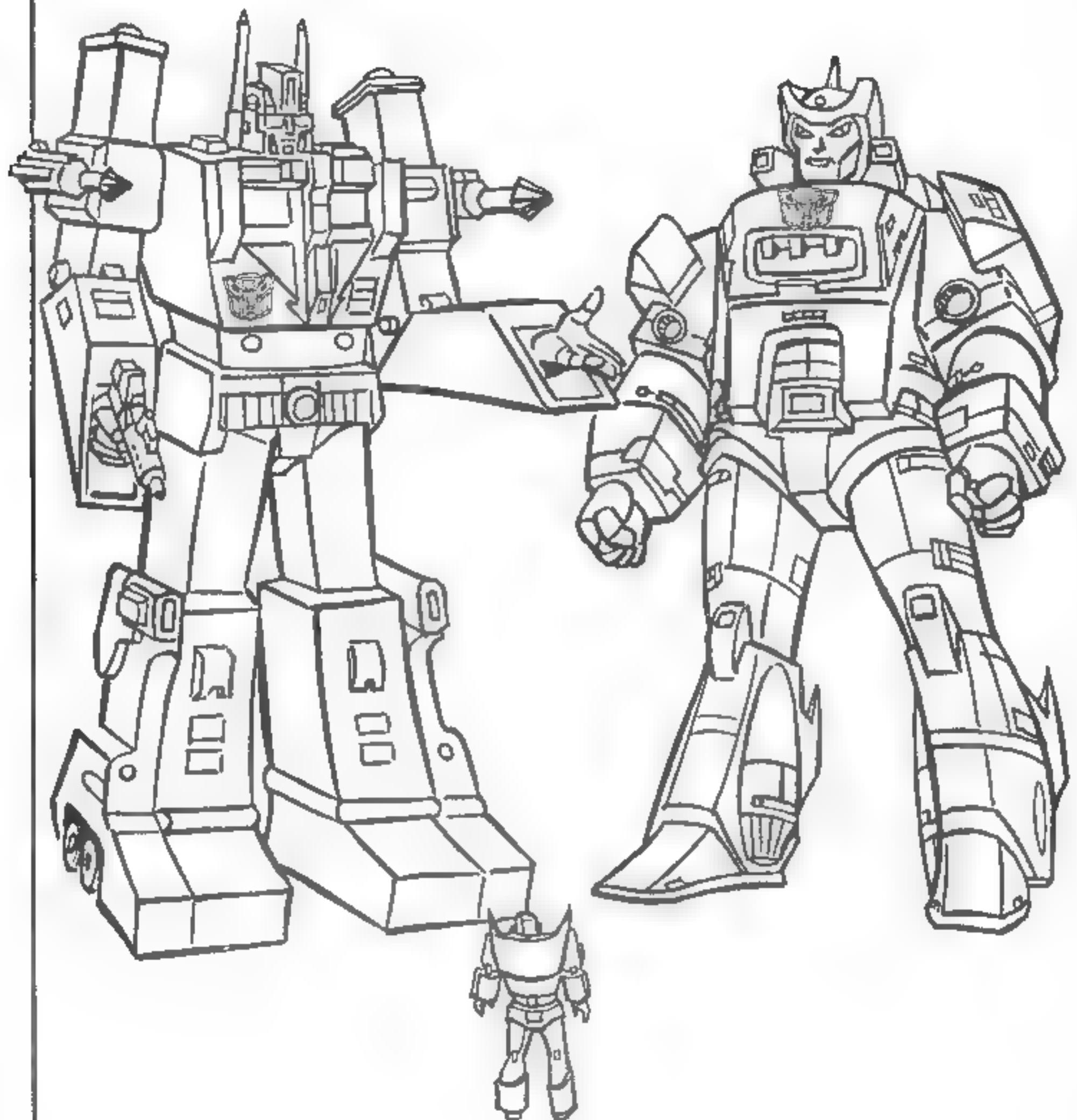
"Hot Rod, my boy, I haven't seen anybody move that fast since Blurr roared by earlier," cracks Springer.



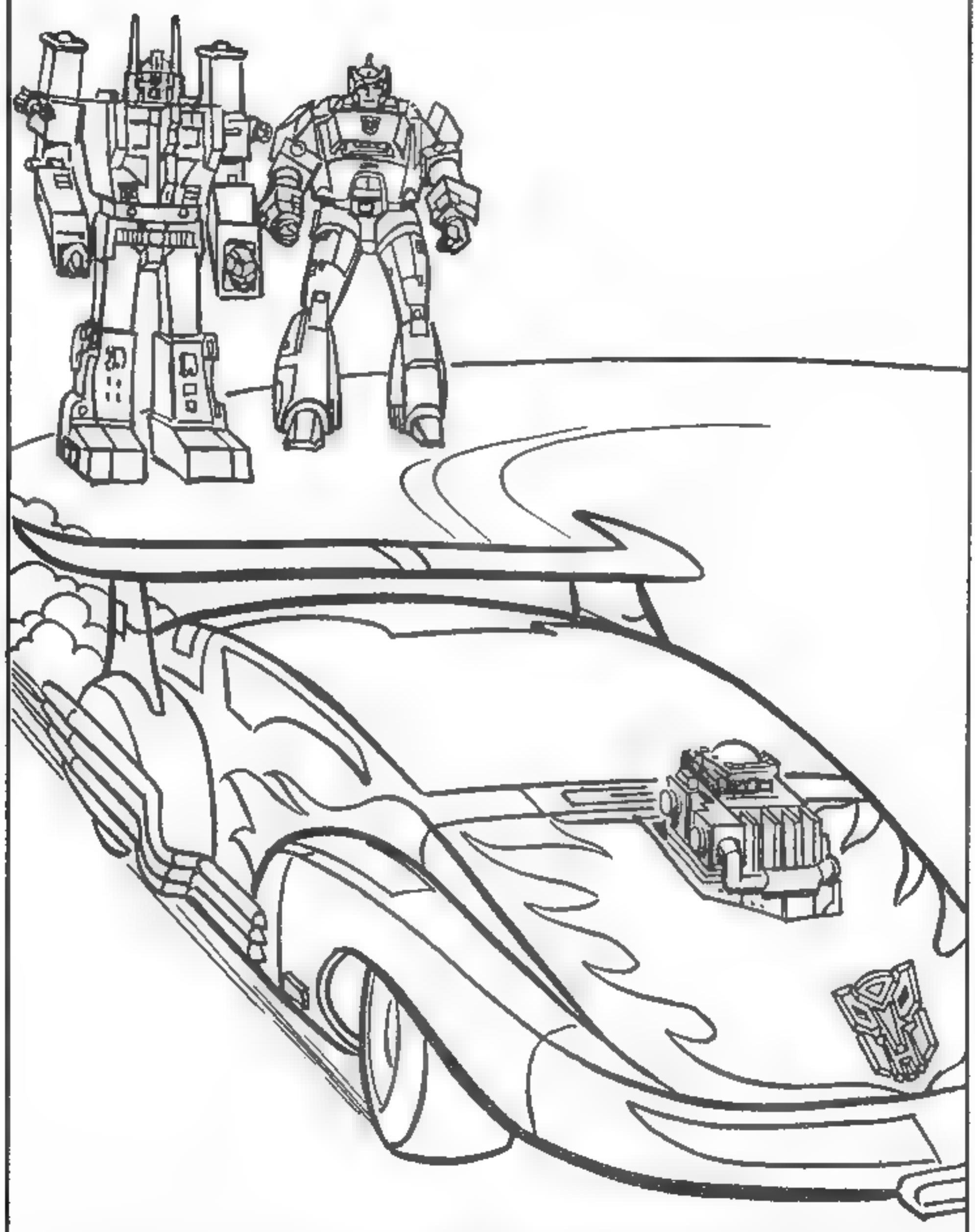
Blurr is the fastest Autobot around. In his car mode he can break the speed of sound.



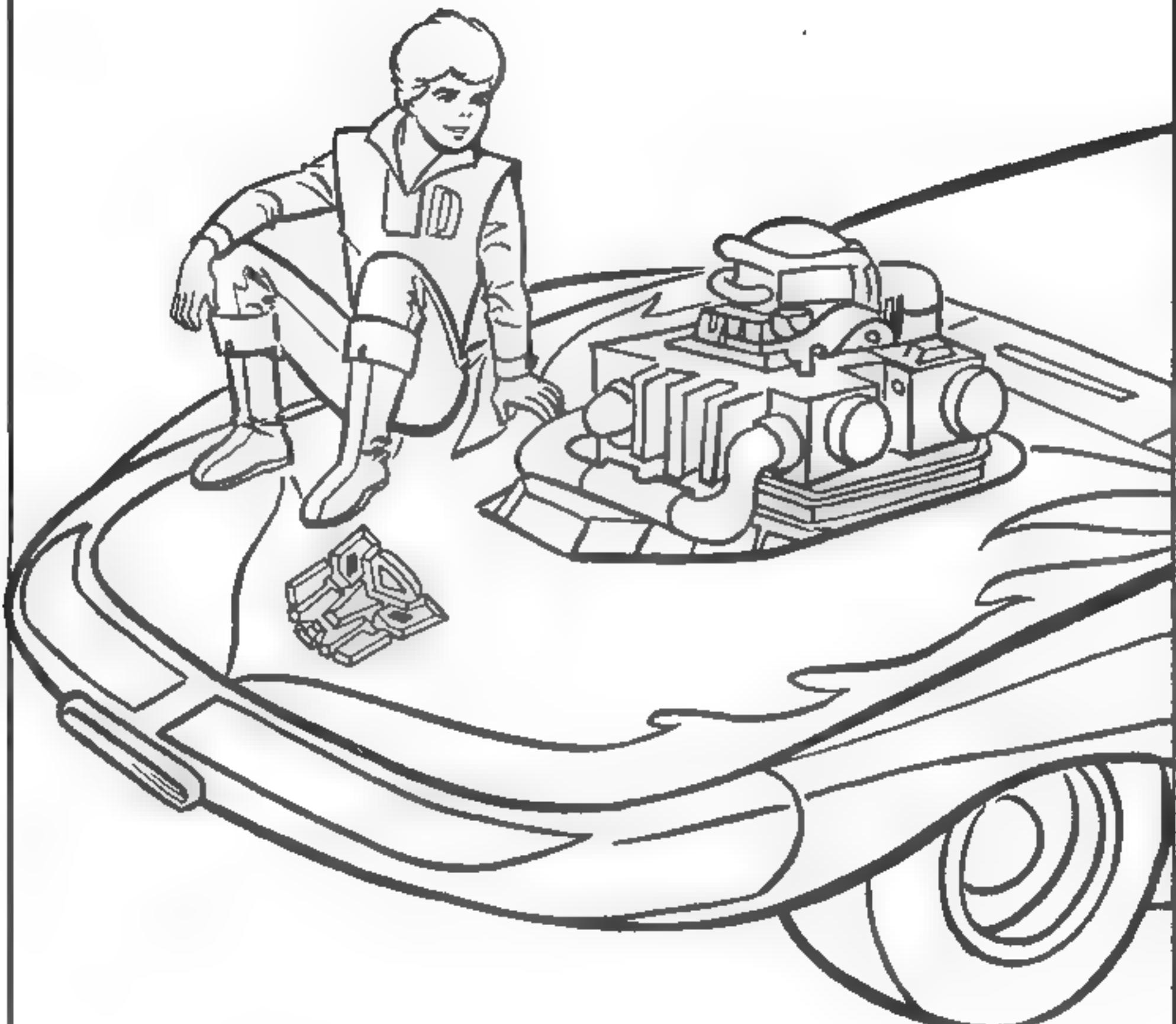
Ultra Magnus sees the Autobots talking. He stops to see what's going on.



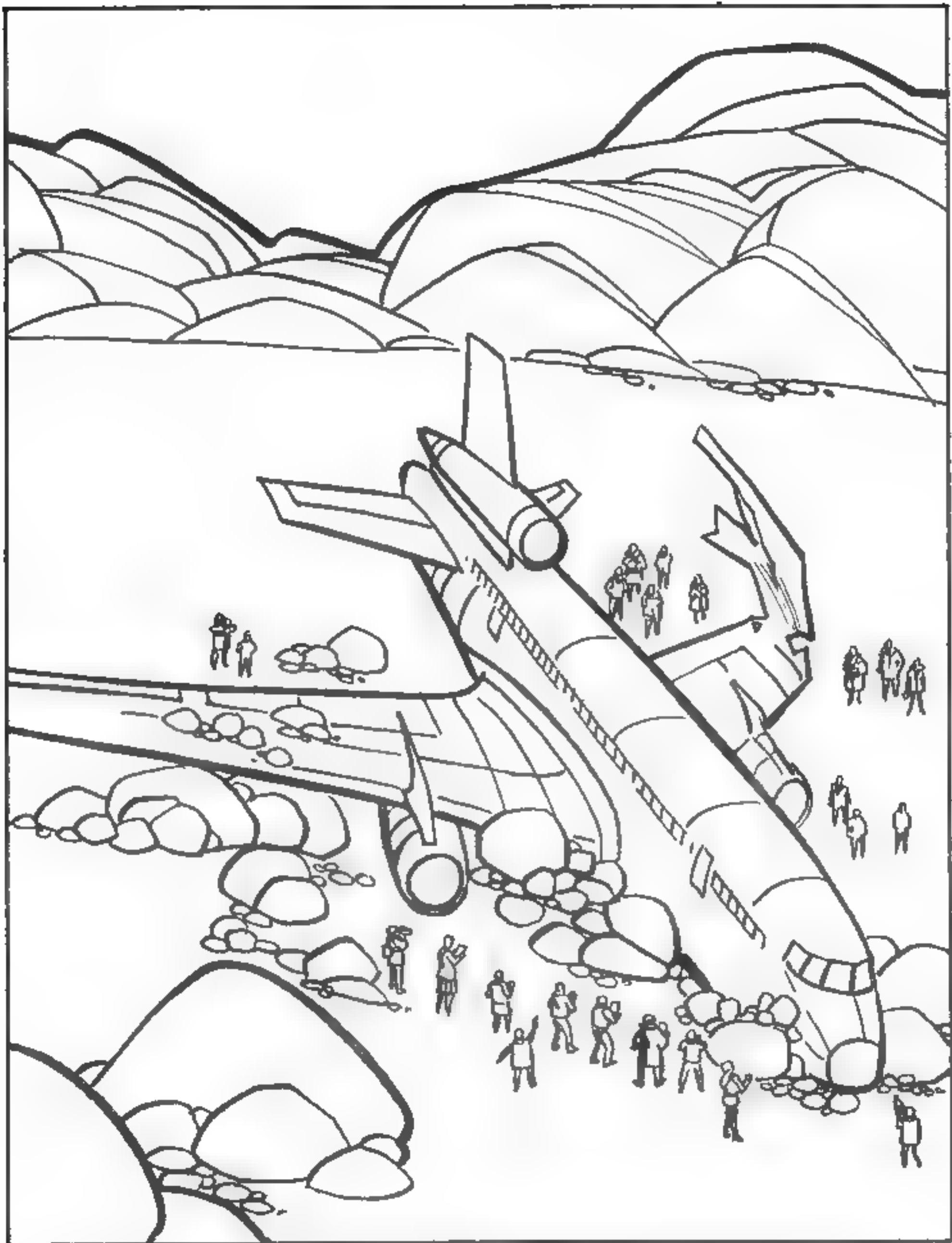
"It's just our boy Hot Rod rushing for some grub," laughs Springer. Hot Rod is in awe of the two mighty Autobots. In his eyes, Springer and Ultra Magnus are ten times his size.



"I'll prove to them that I'm not just a boy!" thinks Hot Rod. "I must show my bravery."



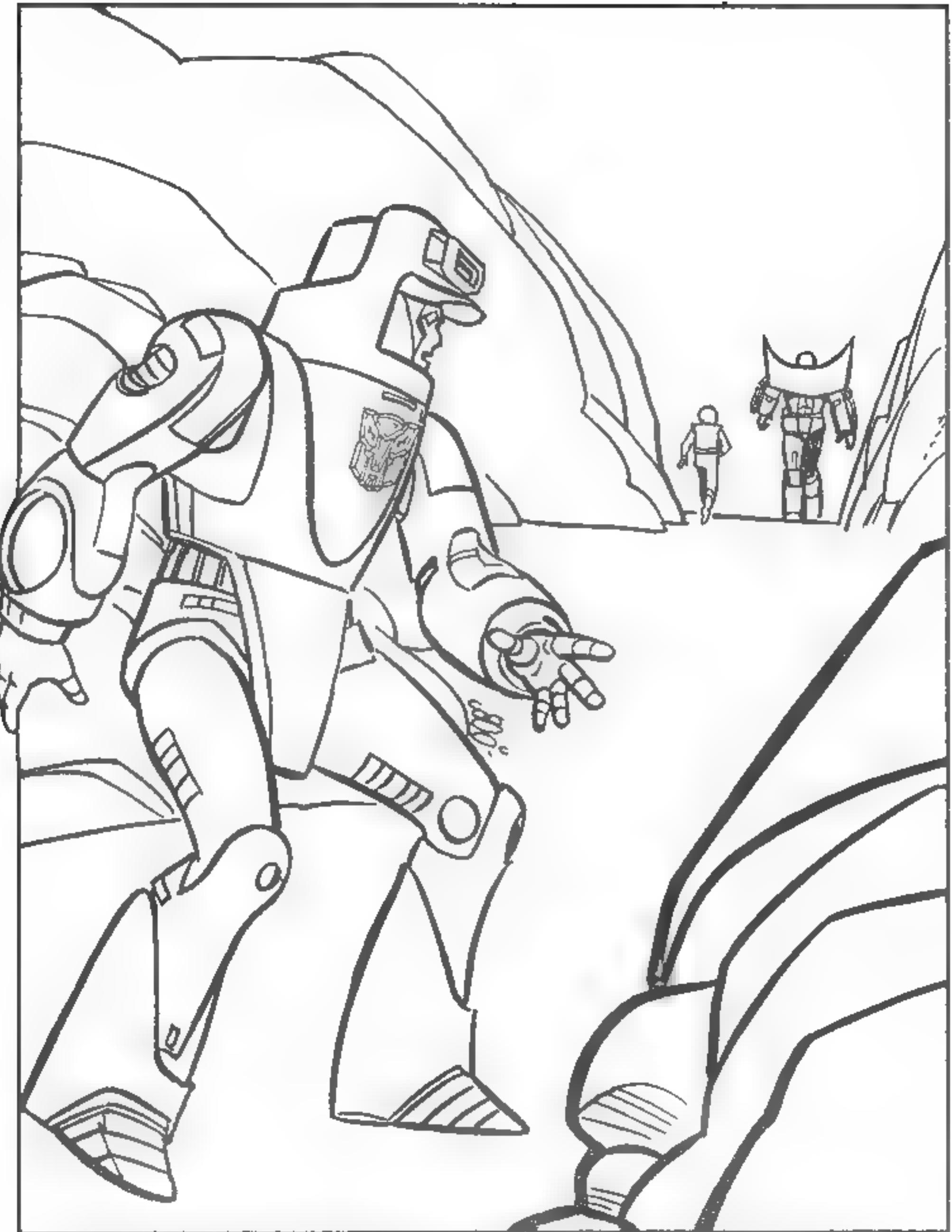
Hot Rod finds his Earth friend Daniel. Together they hatch a plan to prove Hot Rod's valor.



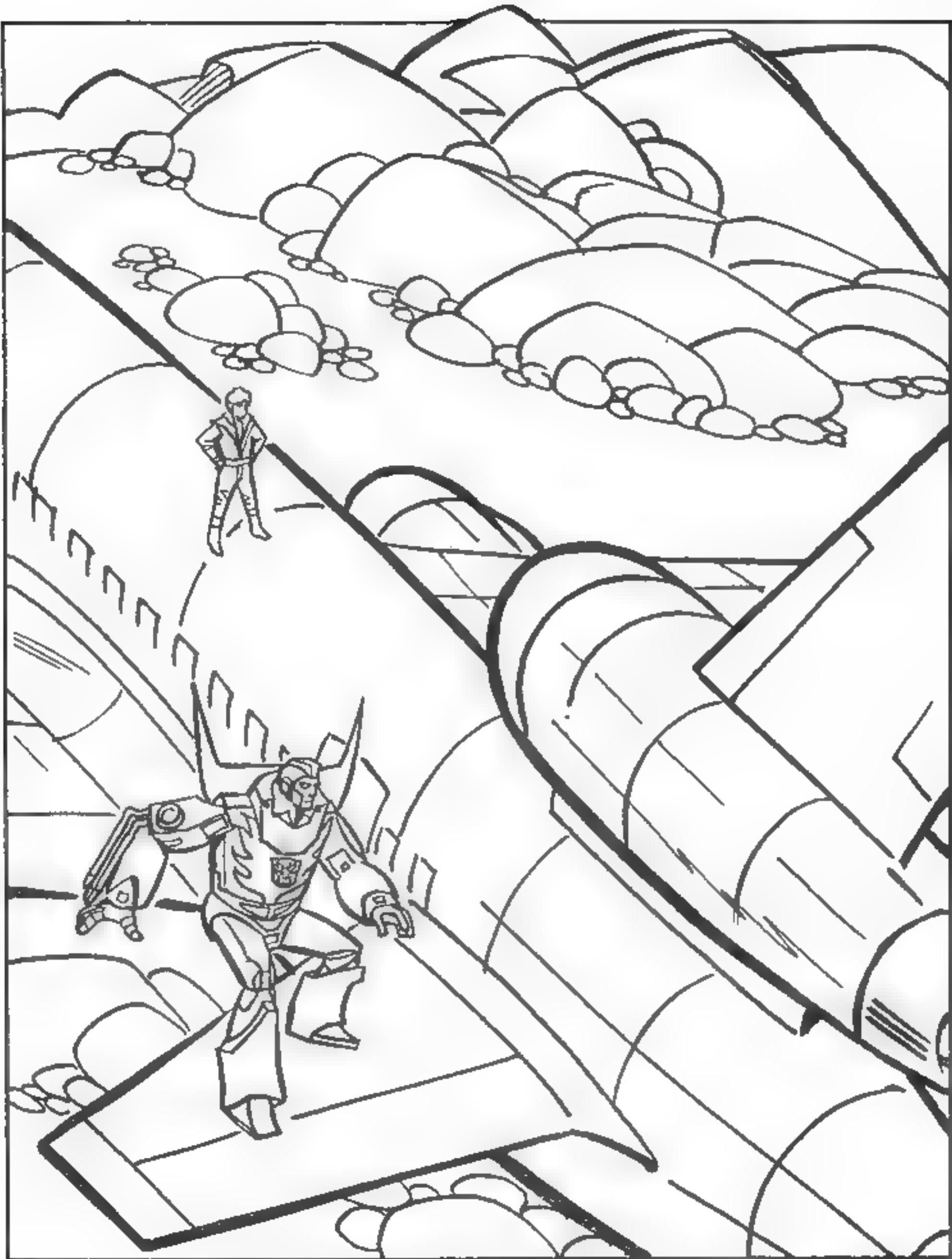
Daniel knows of a nearby Earth plane wreck. There is equipment there that would be very useful to the Autobots.



"Let's Go!!!" cries Hot Rod. The two set off toward the plane.



Wheelie, "the wild boy" of Quintesson is a fearless Autobot. He overhears Hot Rod and Daniel's scheme. Sensing danger, he follows from a safe distance.



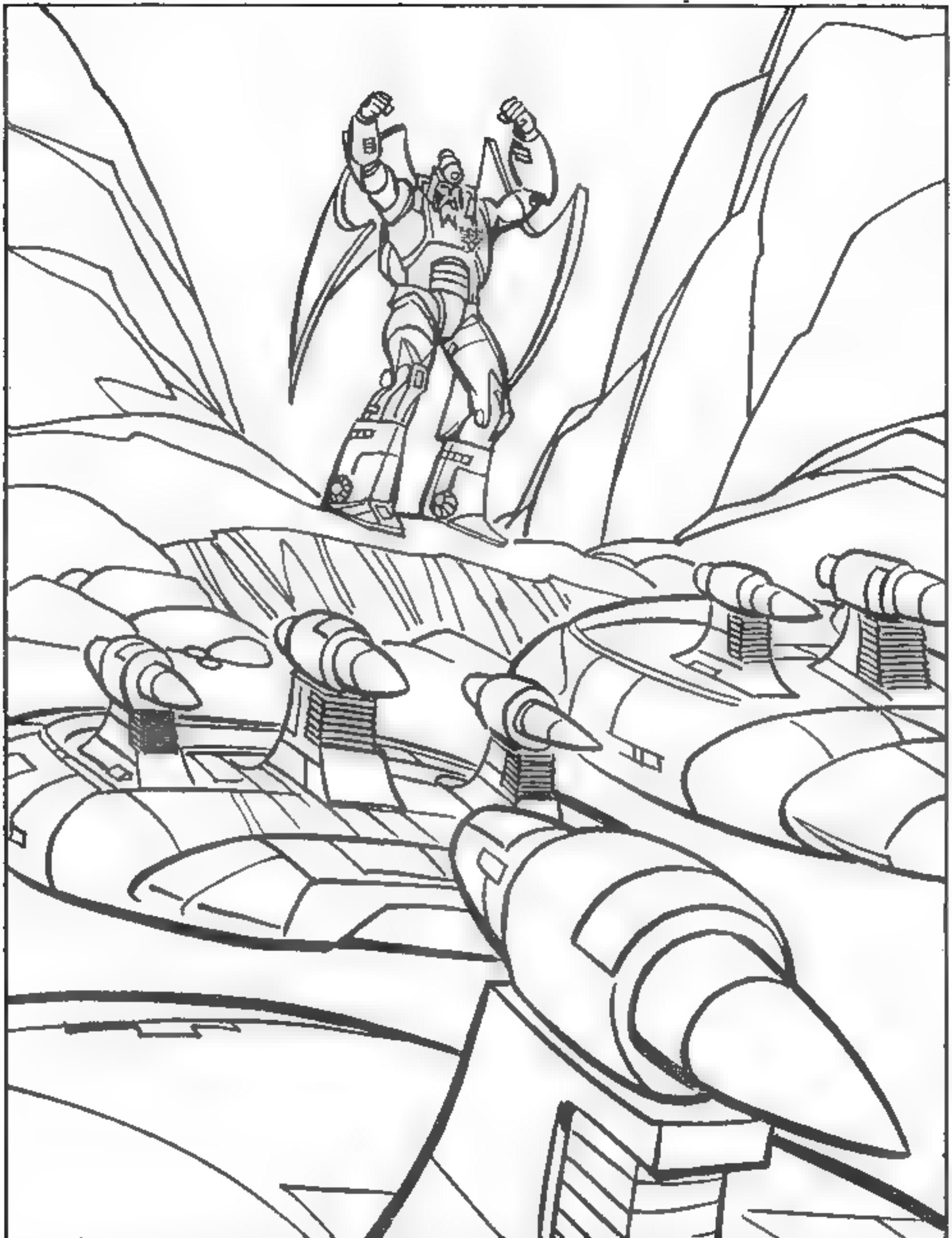
Hot Rod and Daniel investigate the wrecked plane.



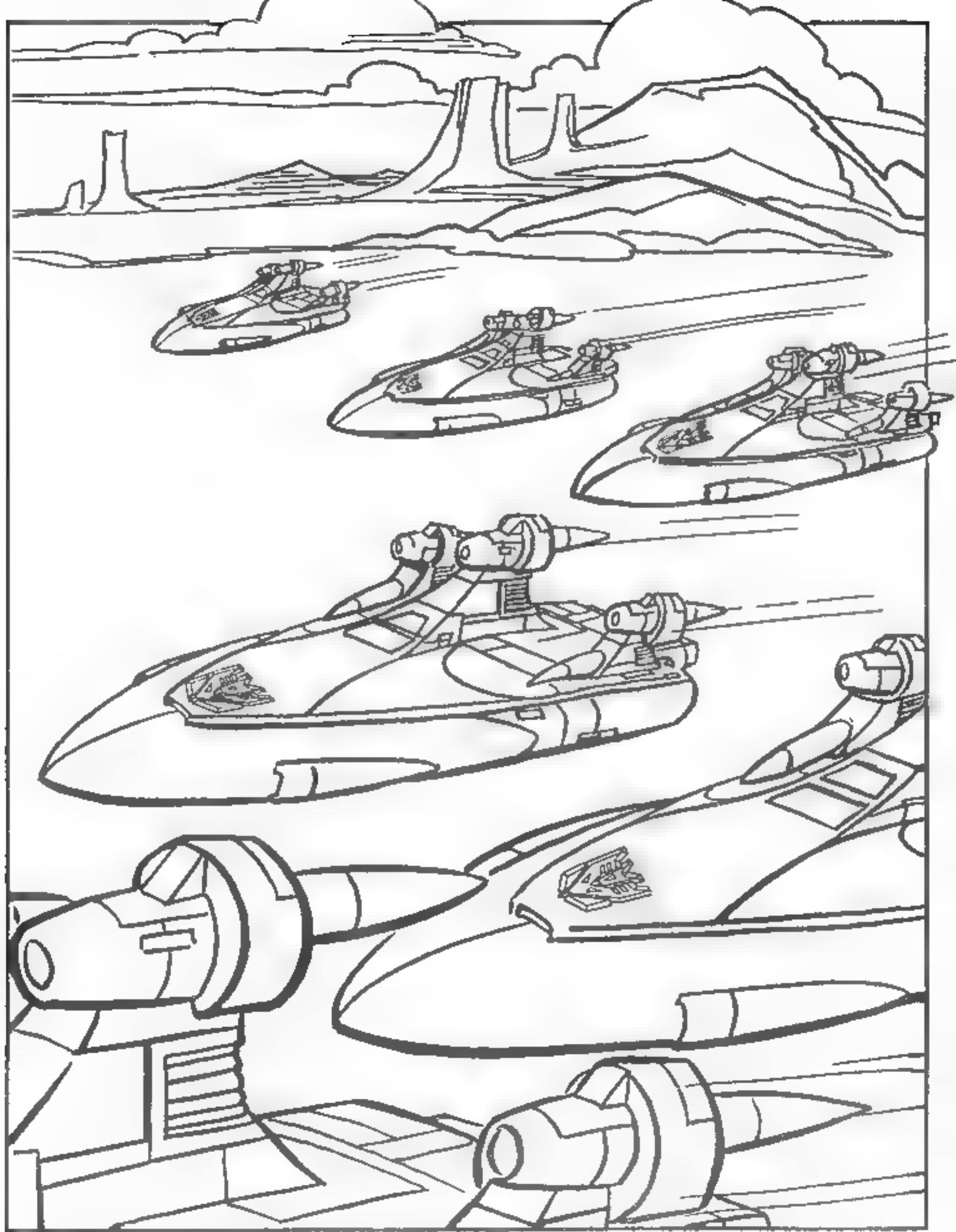
Meanwhile the evil Decepticon, Scourge, receives a transmission on his super-sensitive scanning equipment.



Scourge is the leader of "The Sweeps," a pack of tracker-terminators designed to hunt down and destroy Autobots.



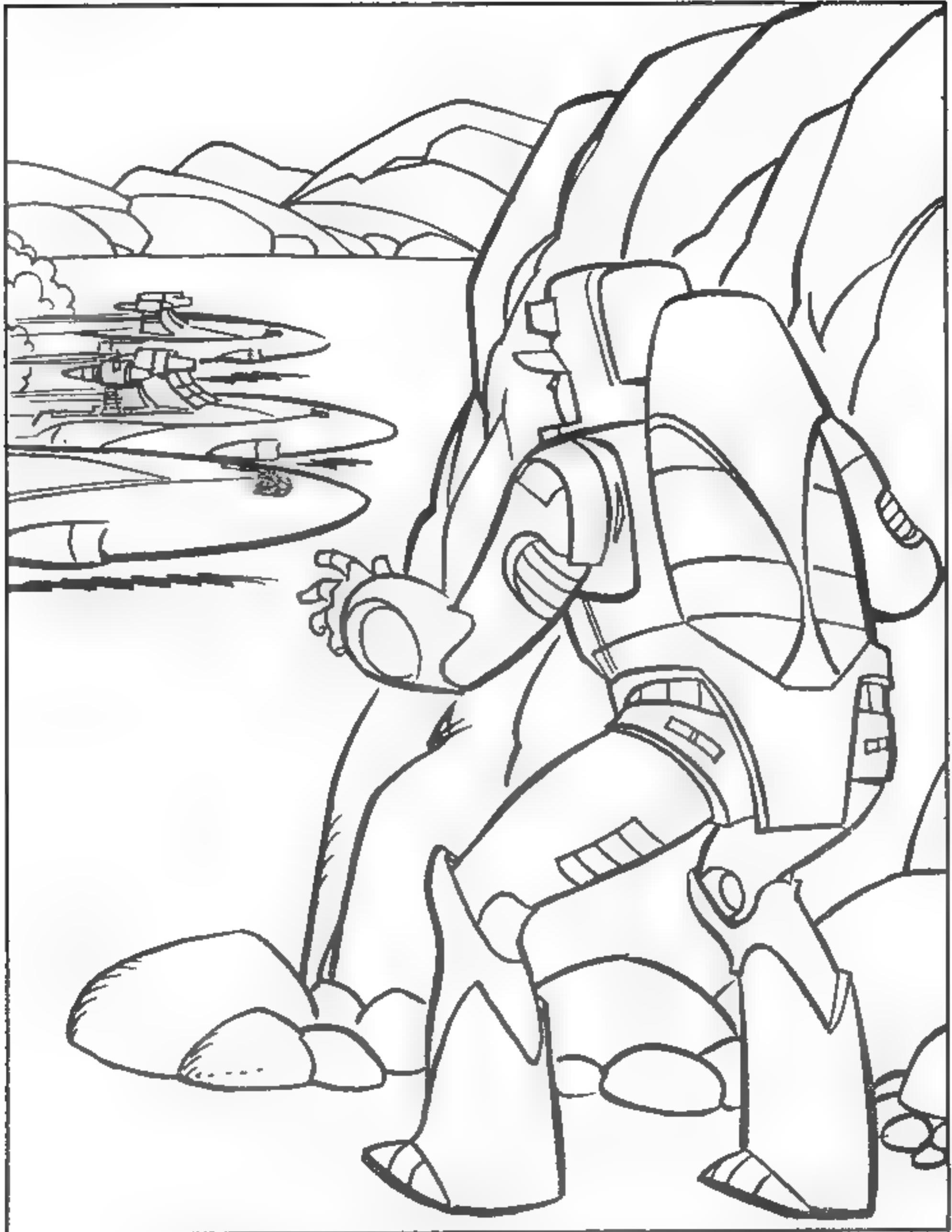
"I know the Autobots would like to get to that plane," scowls Scourge.
"We must seek out and destroy," he commands.



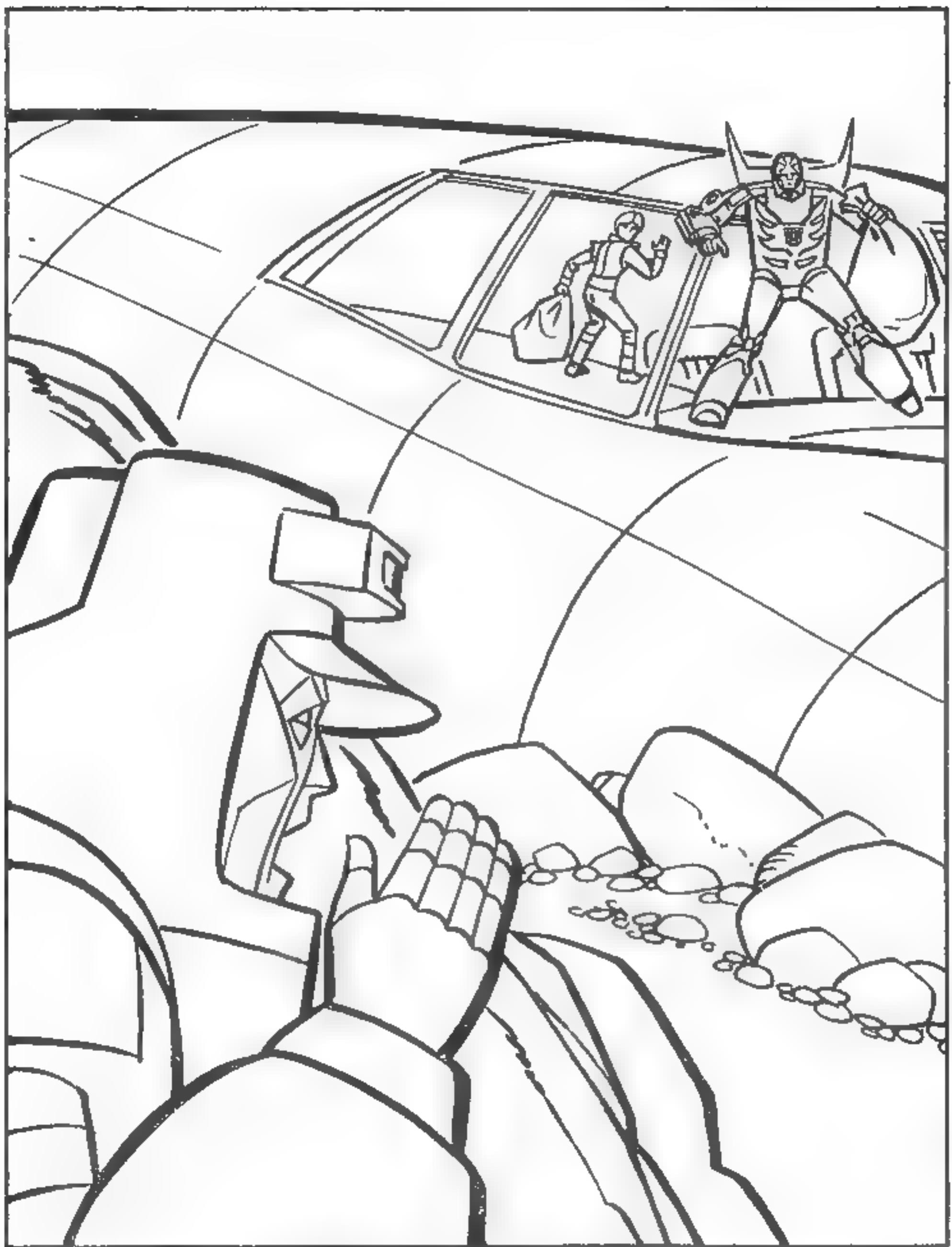
Scourge notifies Galvatron of his discovery and transforms into his Sweep mode. He leads the Sweeps toward the wreck.



"We've struck gold!!!!" exclaims Daniel as he and Hot Rod load up on electrical parts from the wreck.

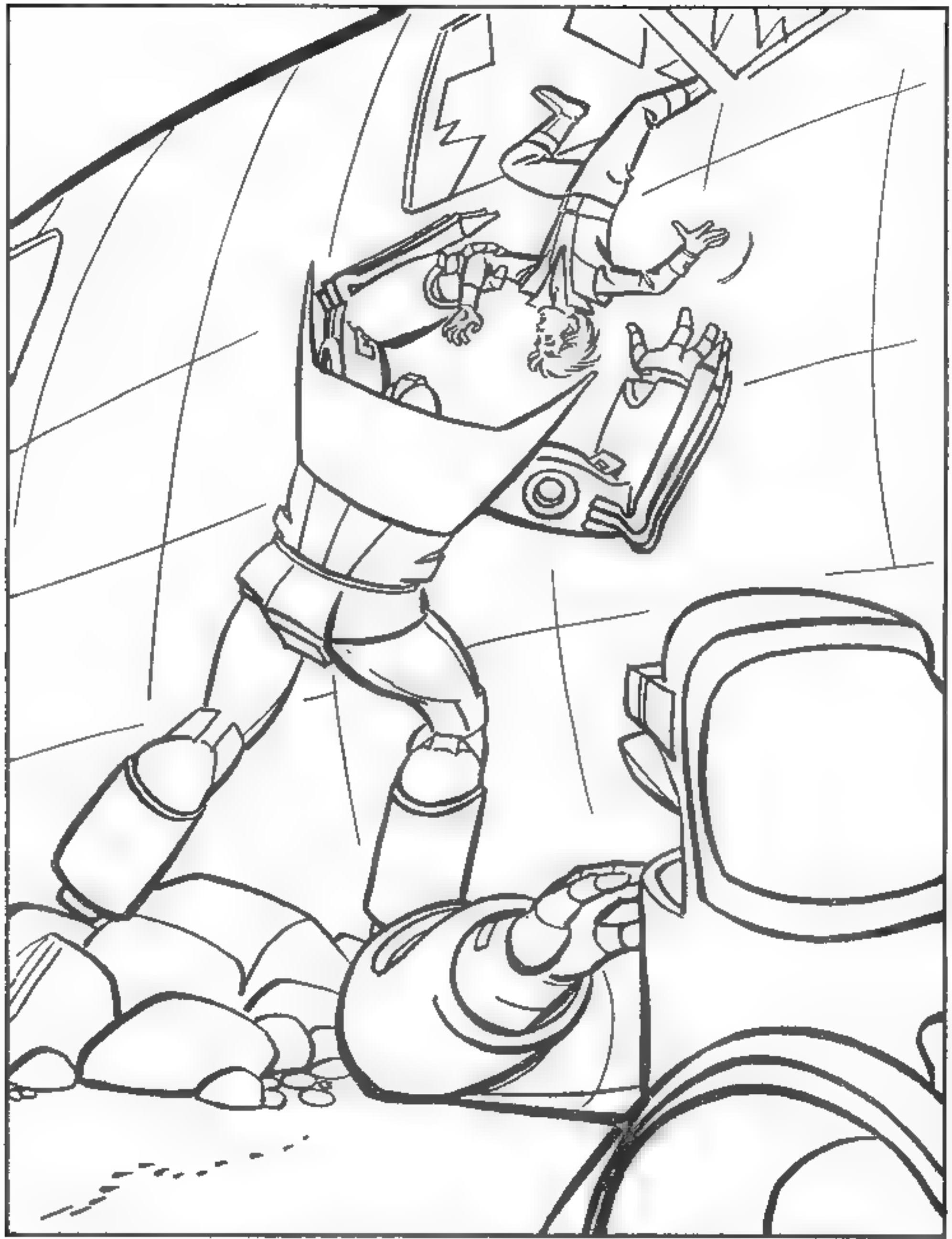


Wheelie's instincts are keen. He sees the Sweeps approaching.

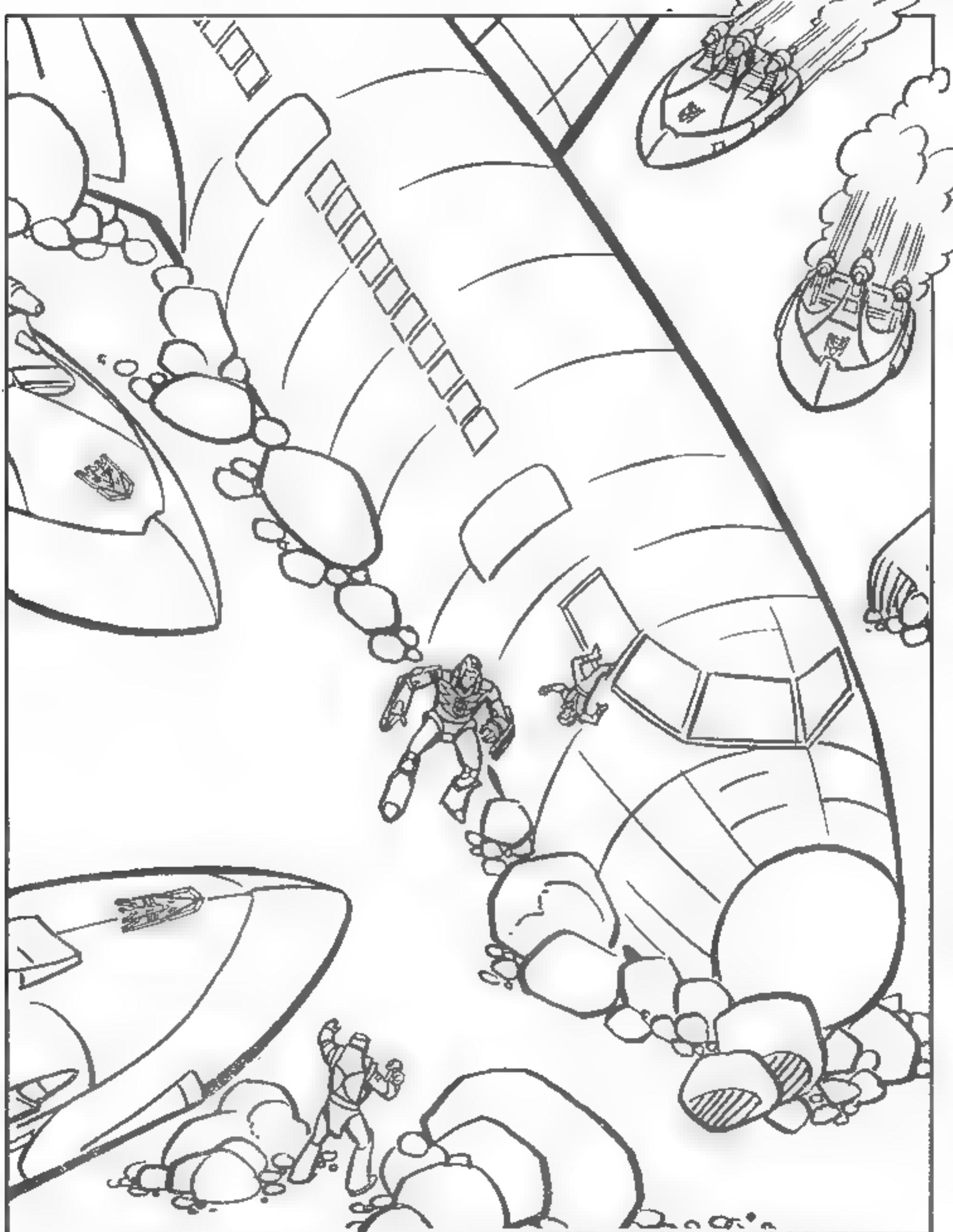


Wheelie shouts words of warning:

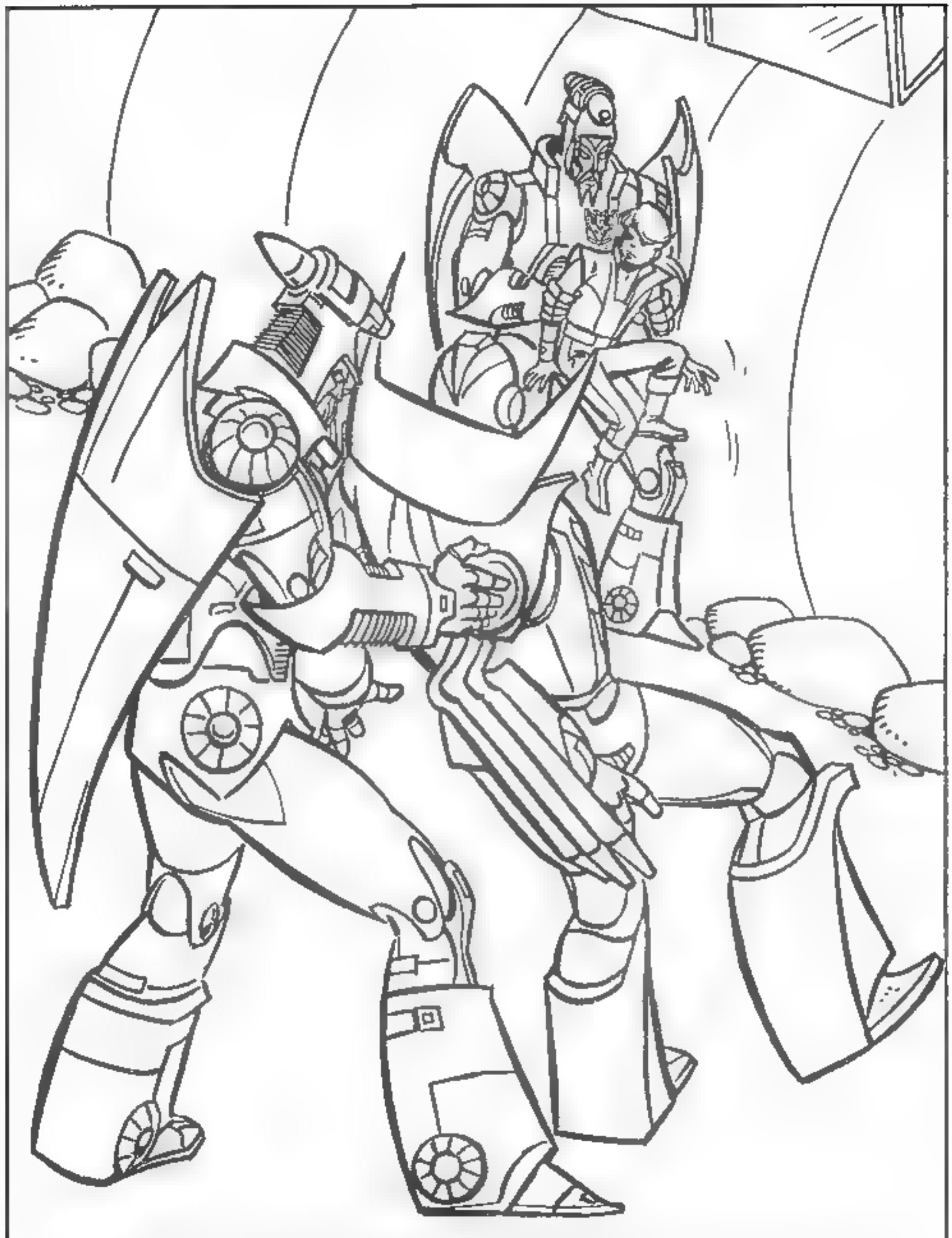
"This laser blast/ Could be your last/ Run boy and Rod/ Don't be slow/
Go, please, go!!"



Hot Rod and Daniel leap from the cockpit in alarm! But Daniel slips and gets his leg caught. He dangles from the plane.



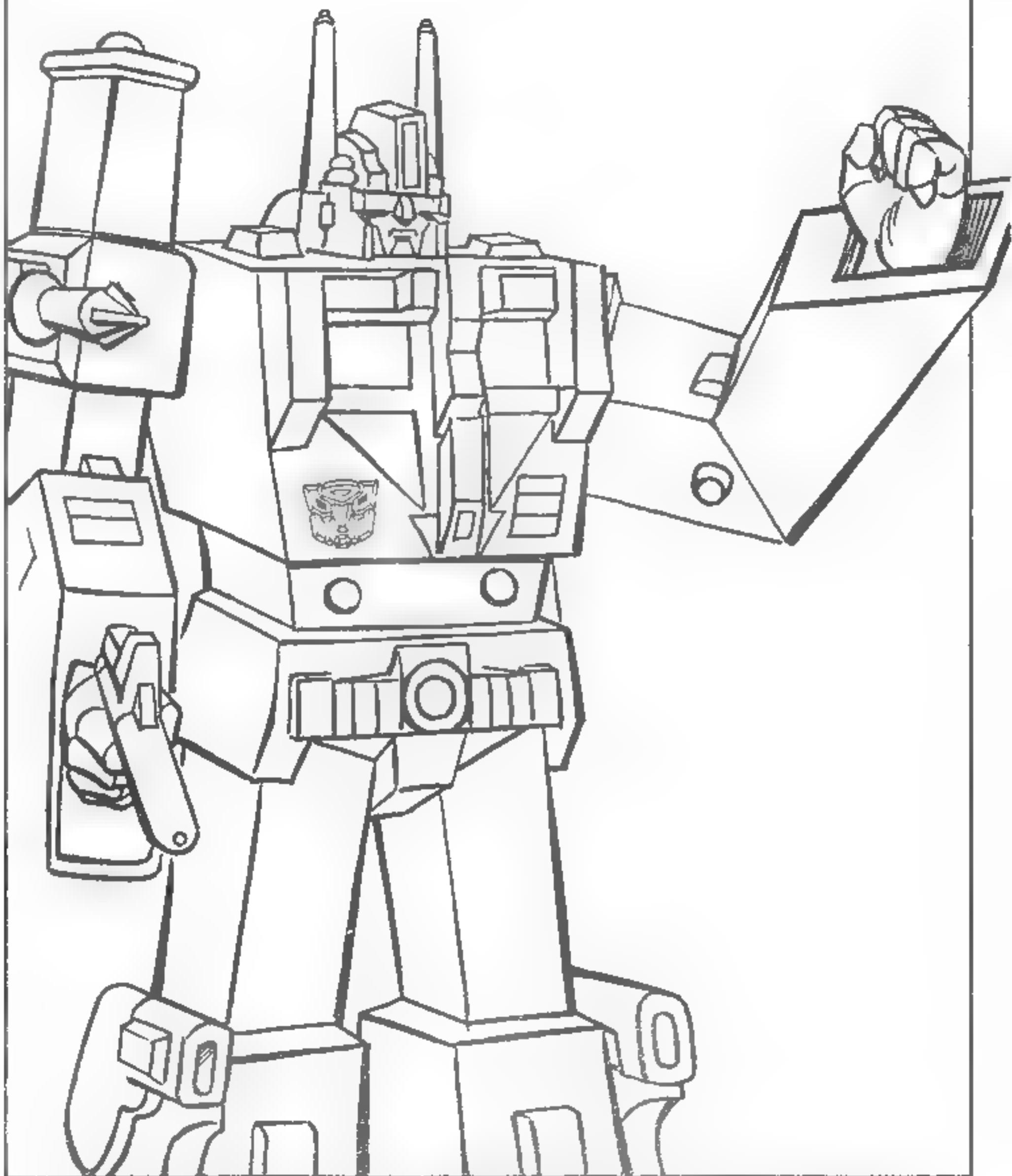
"Wheelie, quick, run and get help!" shouts Hot Rod as the Sweeps surround the wreck.



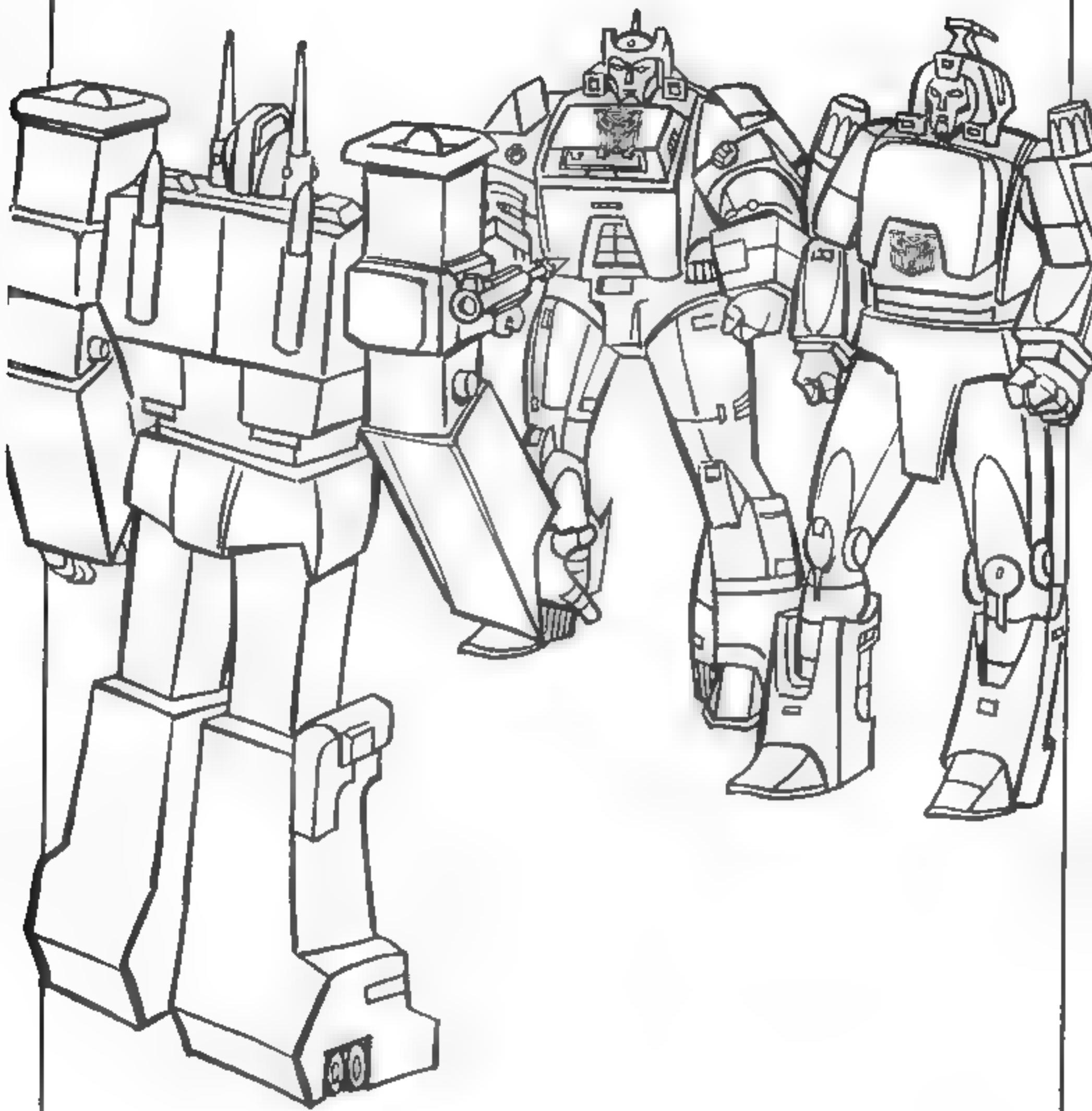
"Galvatron has ordered that they be taken alive! He wants hostages," commands Scourge.



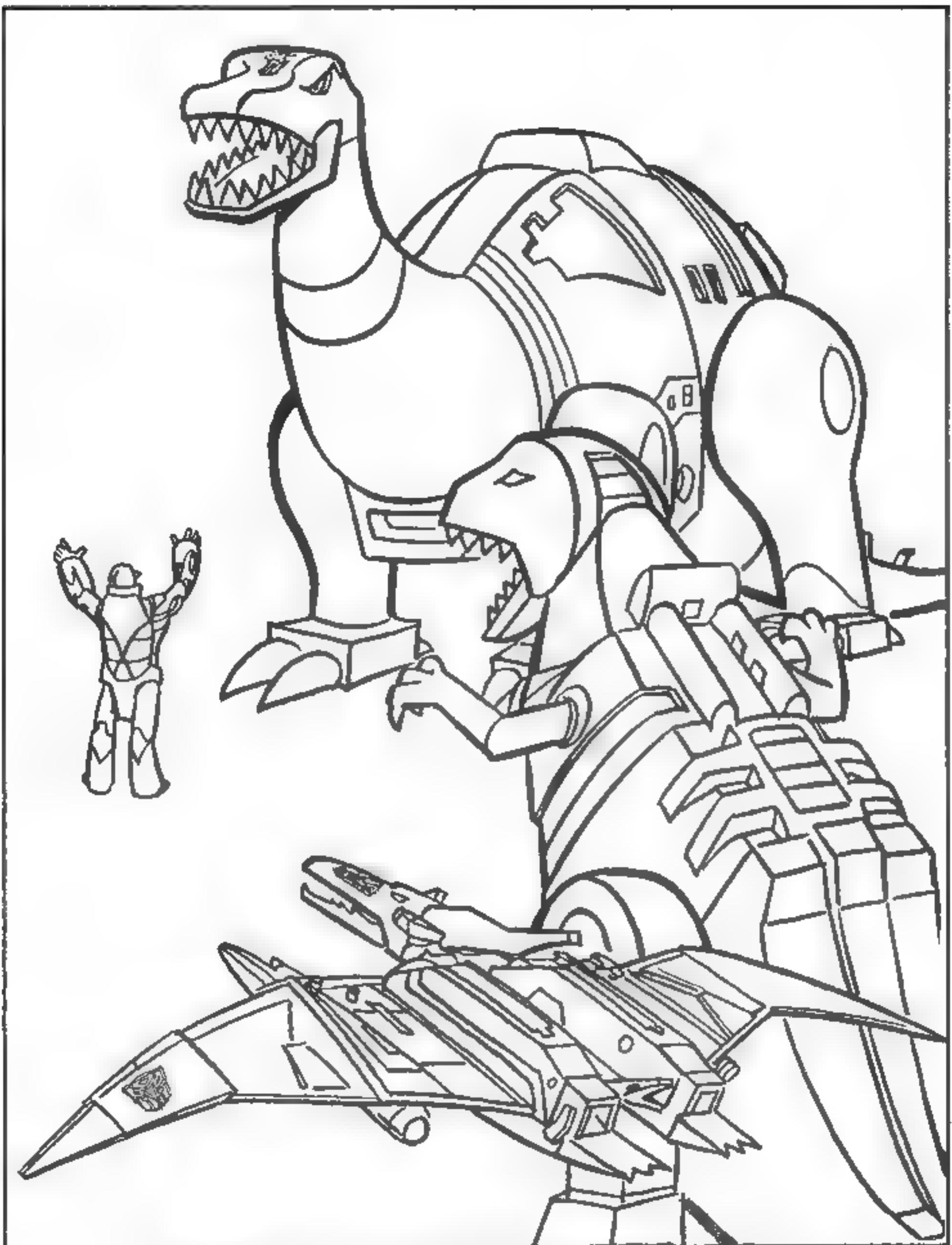
With one merciless blast Scourge disintegrates the plane with his acid ray. "Let's see what the Autobots can do with that heap of rubble," scoffs Scourge.



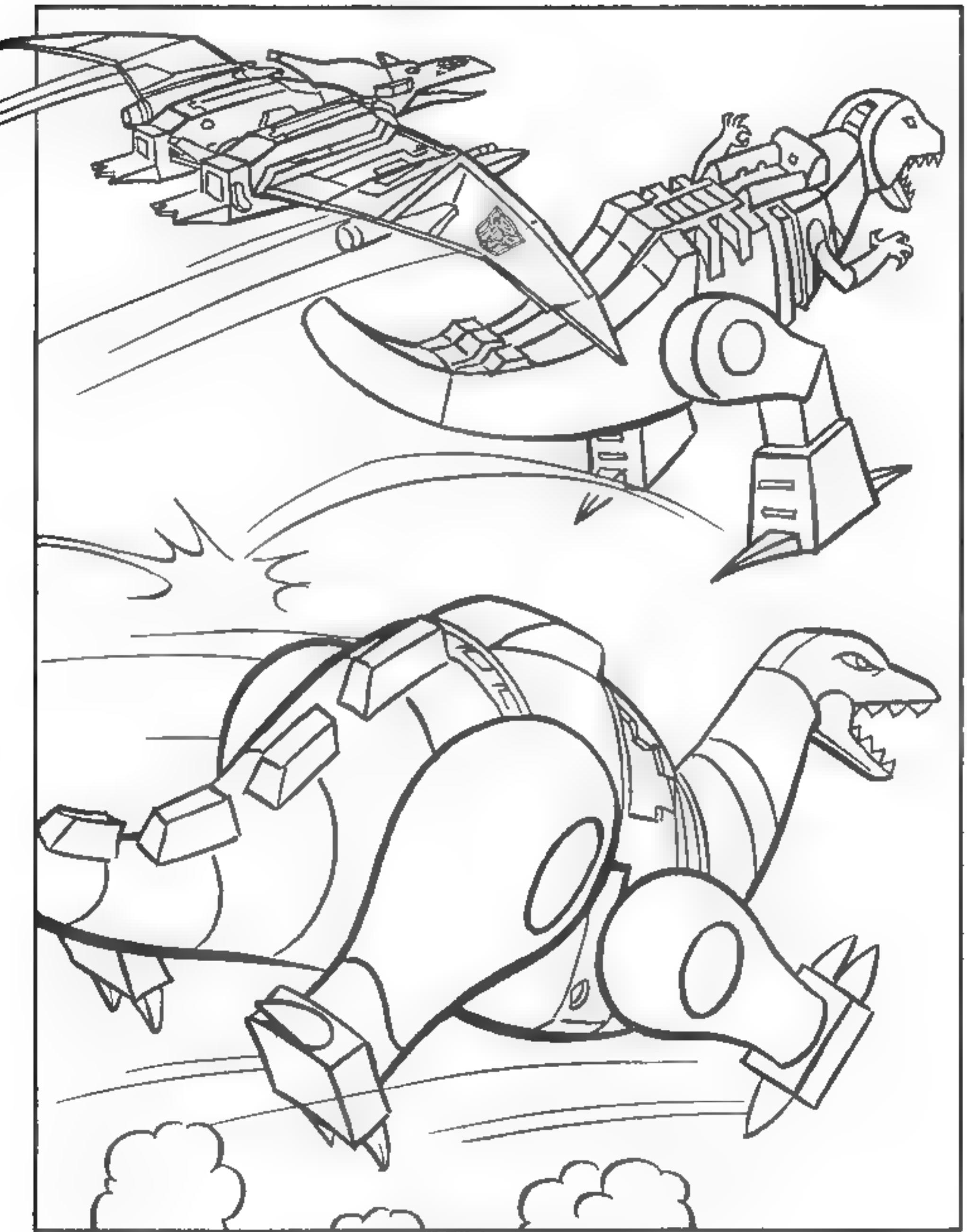
Ultra Magnus gets the news from Wheelie. He orders the Autobots to prepare for attack!



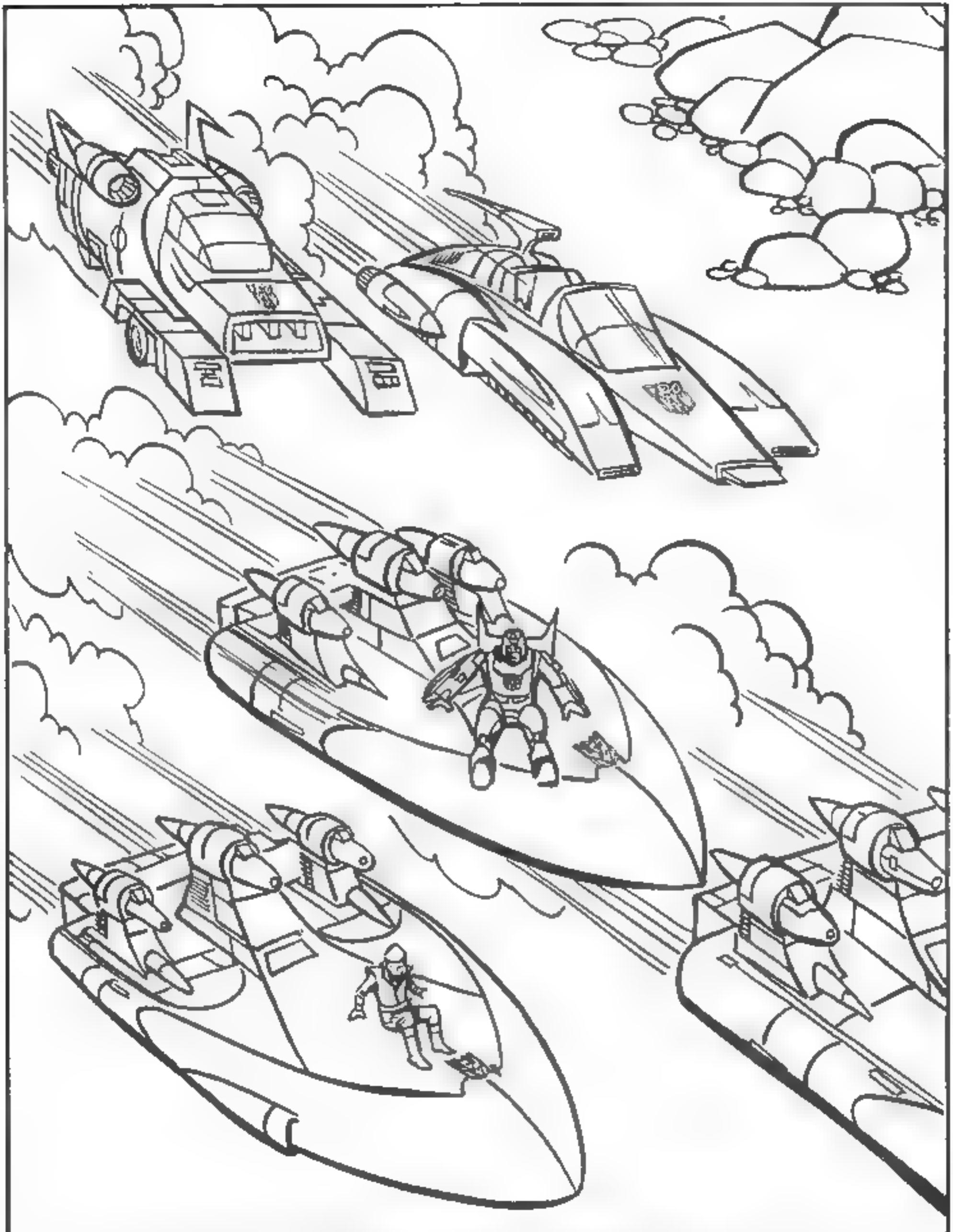
Springer and Blurr are ordered to the scene.



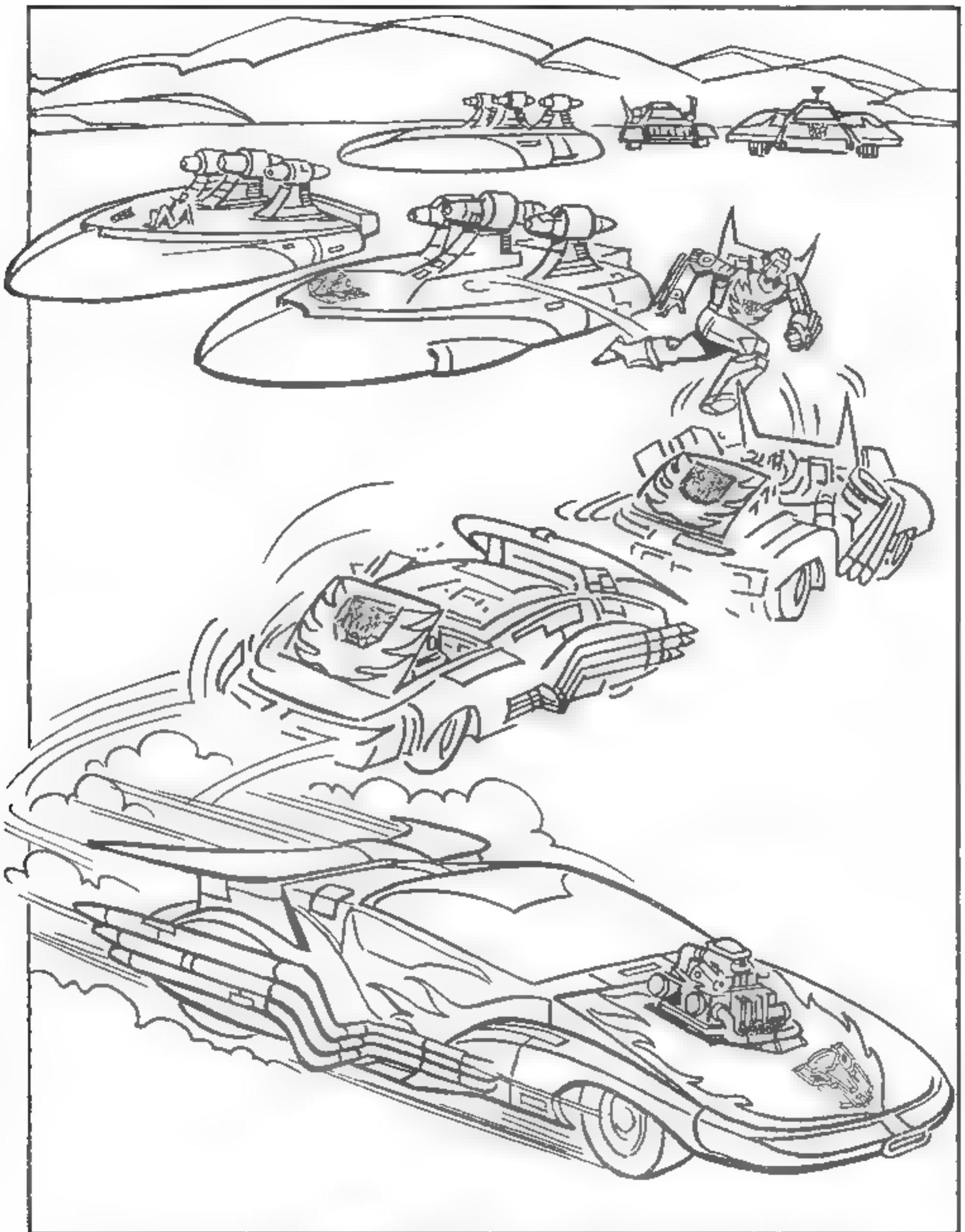
Wheelie rallies the help of his mighty friends, the Dinobots.



The Dinobots are on their way!



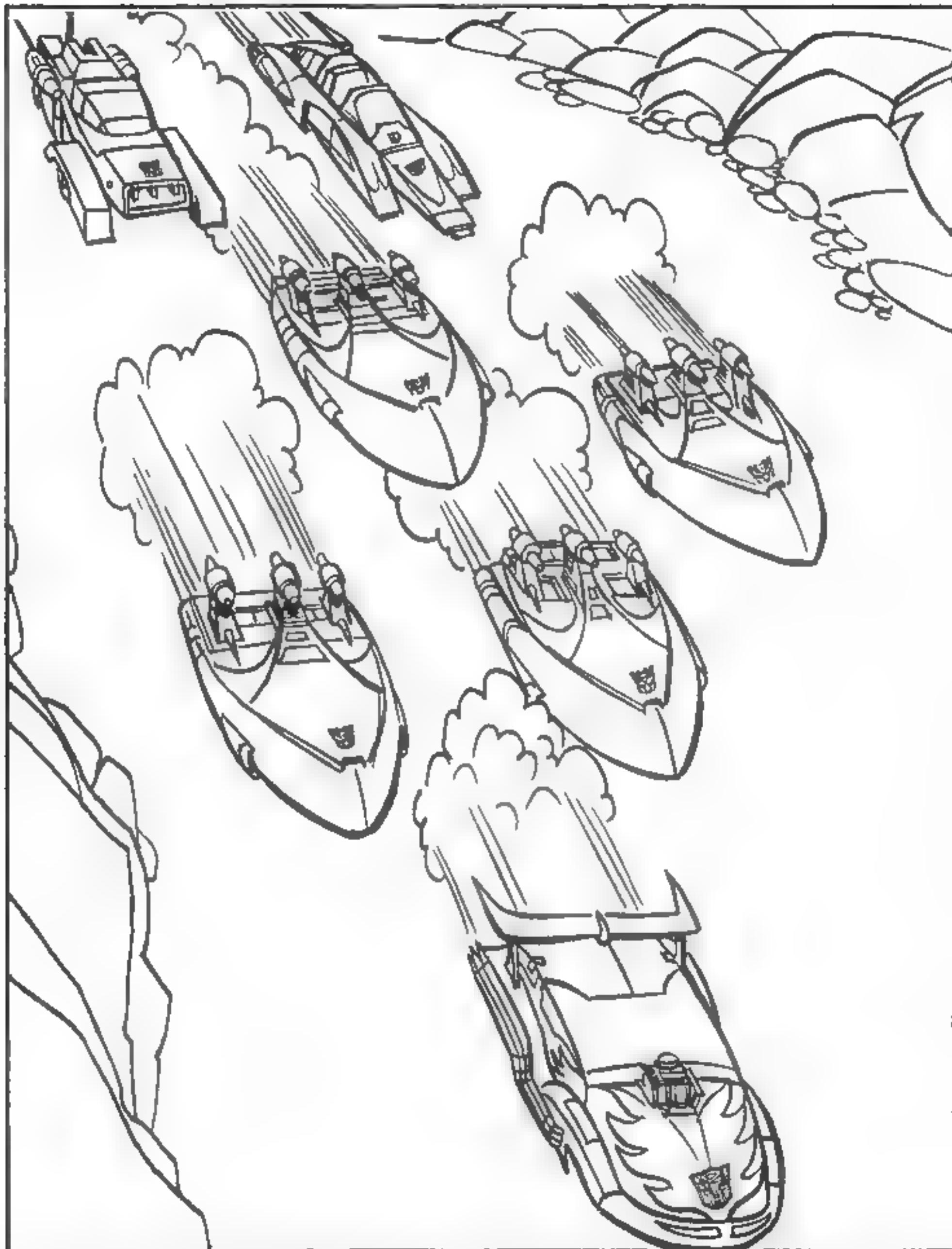
Because of their great speed, Springer and Blurr arrive first, just as Hot Rod and Daniel are being carted away.



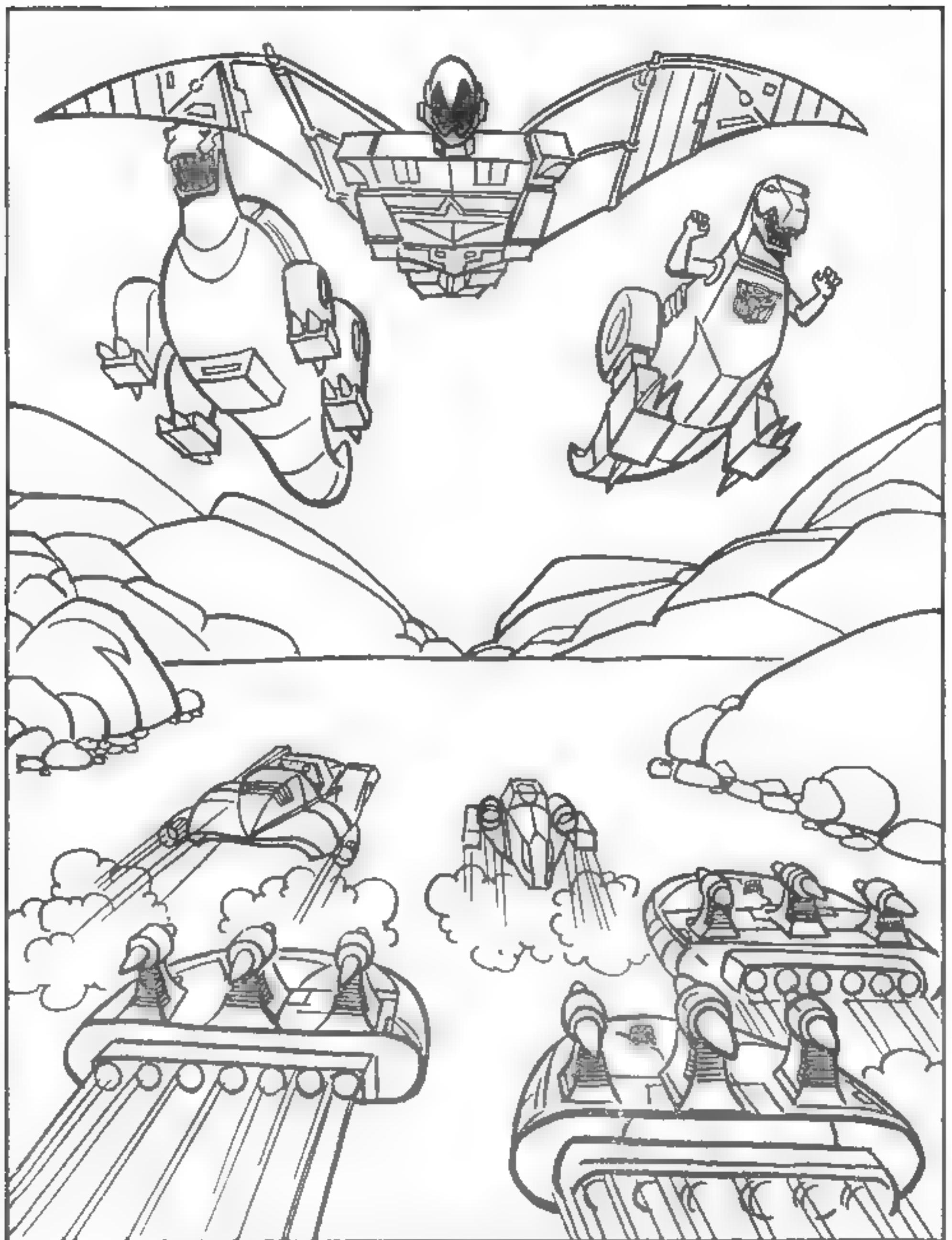
Hot Rod creates a diversion. He leaps from Scourge, transforms into car mode and races off.



"After him," screams Scourge. "Forget the Earth boy. Get that Autobot!"
Daniel escapes.



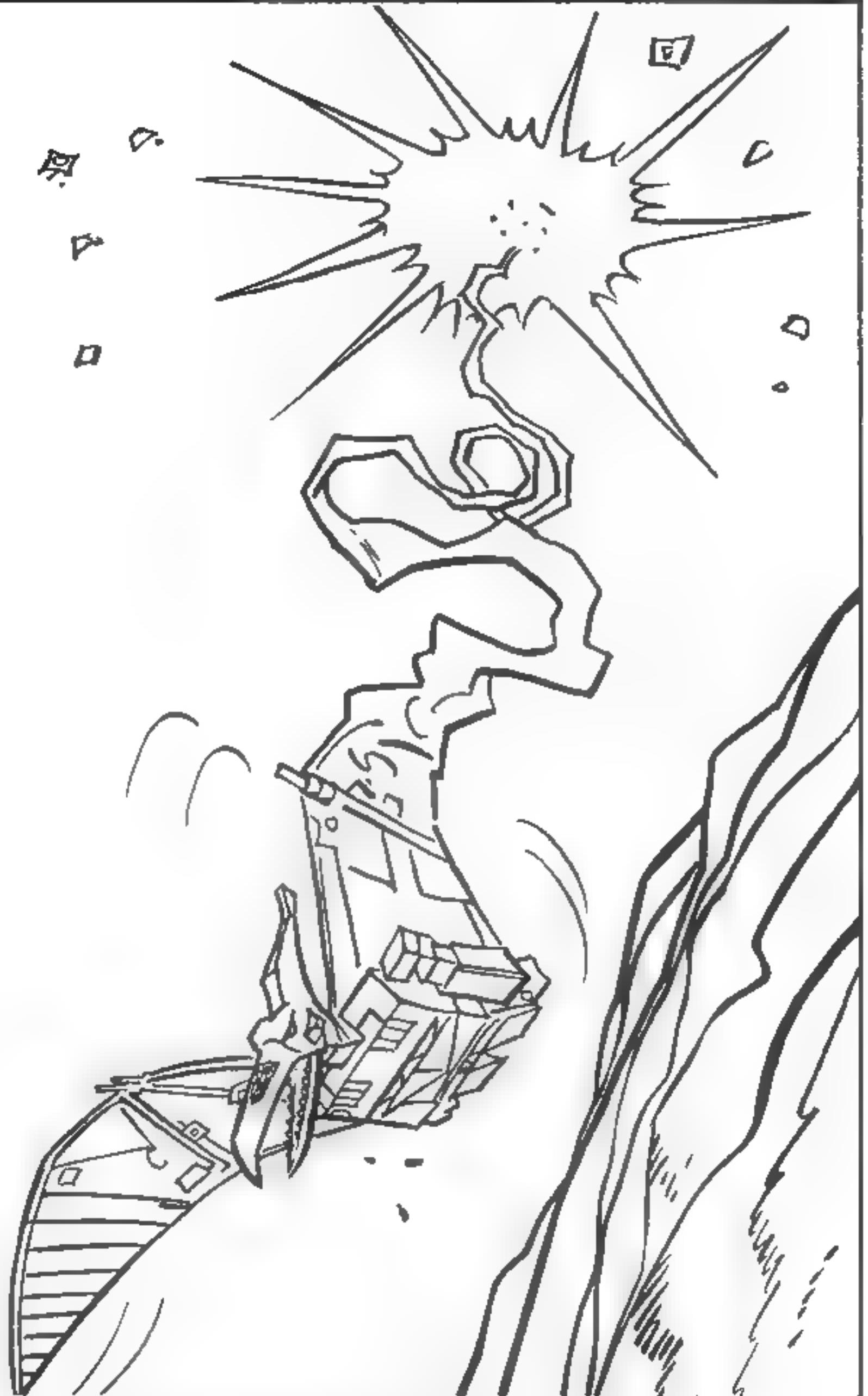
"Look at that boy go!" exclaims Springer. He and Blurr transform into car modes and join the chase.



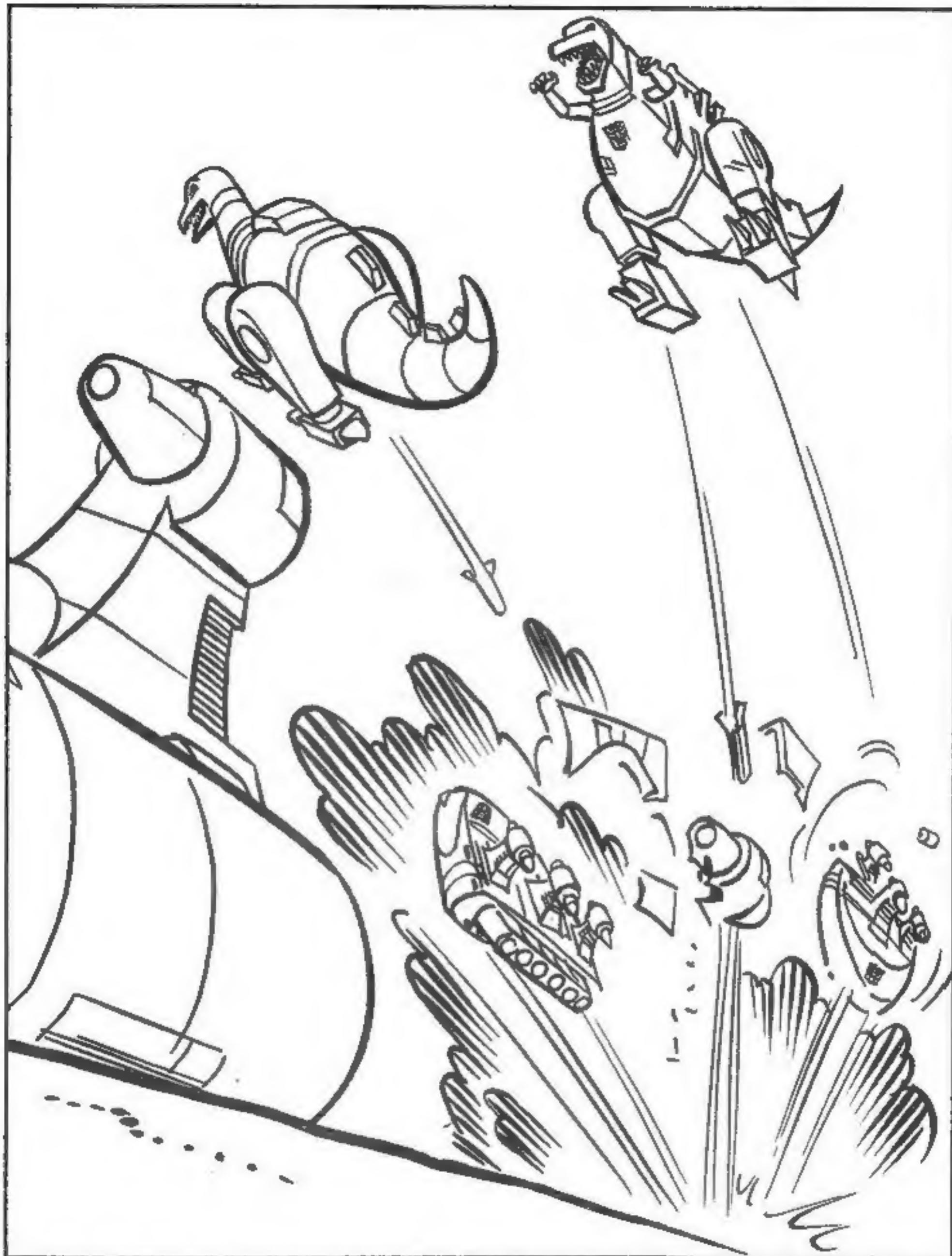
Suddenly the roar of the Dinobots drowns out all car engines.



Scourge is furious! He launches acid rays and laser blasts at Swoop.



Scourge's ray has damaged Swoop's wing. He falls to the ground!
He is hurt—but alive!



The Dinobots fight back fiercely. The Sweeps and Scourge scatter and retreat.



Back at Autobot City, Ultra Magnus praises Hot Rod for risking himself to save his friends.



Hot Rod is proud. He got his chance to be a hero!

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